

Chapter 77 – It seems to be a text taking a glimpse in-between the arcs

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“Starting retrieval of data in sequence from route one once again. Currently 5% of all routes have been completely blocked. The damage ratio towards the world over there is going back and forth between the line of 2%, but it's recognised as being in permissible range. The summoning rate has surpassed 41% and is still further rising. It's mortifying that the success rate of interception has been cut at 40%. At any rate, as the distance is close, the other side has ended up seizing the initiative... discovering summoning routes, intercepting those. ... Ah, it's no good, it was bypassed through another route. The erosion rate will rise once again.”

“Beginning the mental obstruction towards the practitioners at the summoning site... this way is impossible as well. Since the supervisor of the human race has deployed a vast jamming, they have successfully narrowed down the target. Confirmed 98% ineffectiveness of the released virus. Although 2% are on standby or reserve, there's no possibility of a restart. Their barrier is far too strong... shall I release it again?”

“Acknowledged. Or rather, toss it at them continuously until the other side

admits defeat. It might turn into a slight hindrance for the other processes.”

“Roger. I will mix in a subspecies, that received an update, and eject it.”

“Umm... Master?” (Giliel)

Sensing a mood that she is in a state of being somehow strangely excited, Giliel raised her voice shyly.

The place where Giliel is currently located at is a huge room which was buried in some quite unknown machines within a barrier.

A little girl is standing in a daunting pose in its centre. Countless terminals have been deployed in her surroundings. The angels, who had a translucent visor equipped as if hiding their eyes in front of the terminals, hit input terminals, somehow similar to keyboards, with typing sounds while entering lines with unknown meanings.

“I’m very sorry for disturbing you while you are busy, but what kind of clamour is this?” (Giliel)

“The details of the operation? The furniture of the room? Which of those do you want to hear about?”

“I’d like to ask about both, but...” (Giliel)

“If it’s about the room, I changed its design to look Cyberpunk-like. It’s cool, isn’t it?” (God) *(T/N: Cyberpunk as reference the genre type of Science Fiction I guess)*

Having been told that, Giliel turns around in a circle and surveys her surroundings.

The room’s ceiling was high and its walls were large, but machines with uncertain utility had been tightly inserted there so that those walls were completely filled. They are showing gauges, where it’s unclear what they are representing, and spitting out numbers that make no sense even if you look at them.

She didn’t know whether that’s cool seen from the standpoint of a person who likes that kind of situation where the light of gauges is blinking in a gloomy room, but Giliel has no such hobby.

“Does it have any meaning, that?” (Giliel)

“If it’s meaning, then no!” (God)

Giliel feels fed up after the little girl stated that decisively. Nevertheless, pulling herself together one way or the other, Giliel tries to throw another question at her.

“Then, what about the side of the operation details?” (Giliel)

“That one is...” (God)

The little girl, who looks at the work-in-progress of the angels while making a sound of grinding her teeth out of vexation, said over her shoulder looking annoyed while strongly clenching her fists,

“We are obstructing the ritual of hero summoning.” (God)

“You are obstructing it...?” (Giliel)

“Yes, it looks just like this, but what we are actually doing is retrieving the data of each world’s route from the previous world of the summoned towards the summoning site and destroying them once we discover the traces of summoning mana. The mana for using summoning magic formulae is enormous. As it’s impossible for just one caster, they are sending the mana to the summoned’s original world by branching it through several routes. The somewhat larger routes, which allow large amounts of mana to be sent all at once, have been closed from the start. However, there’s an infinite number of routes. Since we don’t know which and just when they will use a specific route, close to half of the ritual has ended up finishing already.” (God)

“Even with you here, master?” (Giliel)

Due to Giliel’s way of telling her that in a slightly surprised manner, the little girl faced her and showed a smile that wasn’t like that of a little girl at all but rather like that of a worn-out grandmother.

“If I were almighty, we wouldn’t have such difficulties.” (God)

“Is.. that so? Is it not possible to stop the summoning itself?” (Giliel)

“That’s impossible. In the long run our side will end up falling behind. Even if it’s possible to delay them, preventing it is impossible.” (God)

Giliel tries to express her question, she suddenly came up with, due to the little girl showing quite the frustrated expression.

“Be that as it may, why are you trying to hinder the summoning? Seeing that a demon king has appeared among the demons, won’t it be out of the question if there’s no hero for the human race?” (Giliel)

“That’s why.” (God)

The little girl looks at Giliel, who is frowning due to not understanding the meaning, with the eyes of a teacher that sees a completely incapable pupil.

“Giliel, do you know of shogi?” (God)

“Y-Yes. It’s one of the games of the world where that Renya-san lived.” (Giliel)

“That’s right. That one’s a game where both side’s try to take each other’s king, however the number of game pieces changes depending on one’s competency. But you know, there are game pieces whose numbers won’t decrease no matter what.” (God)

“That is... the king and the opposing king, right?” (Giliel)

“Yes, it’s those. Without them it won’t become a game. It is similar to the jindori game over here.” (God)

Did the anger towards the supervisor of that world well up in her while talking? The little girl’s eyes are tinged with a dangerous glim. *As expected, since she has stopped them once before, she probably won’t wield her power entrusting all of it to her anger without thinking,* Giliel thought, but this little girl, who’s still angry after all, was an extremely scary being even from Giliel’s standpoint.

“There’s a demon king and there’s a hero. With the game pieces being all together for the first time, it will turn into a game. It will be out of the question if either side is missing.” (God)

“In other words, as long as you interfere with the summoning of a hero here, master, the jindori in that world won’t begin, is what you mean?” (Giliel)

“That’s how it is. If possible, I wanted to stop it completely, but that was in vain after all.” (God)

“Huh? Now that you mention it, if it happens as you’ve said, won’t it this time become a game just between the humans and the demons?” (Giliel)

Completely ignoring the little girl who has a grim impression hanging in the air, Giliel voices out a doubt that occurred in her mind.

Why is it only the humans who summon heroes from another world in that world in all ages and countries, Giliel, who had unlimited knowledge, wondered going by the records of other races having carried out the hero summoning ritual.

“There’s no way for that to happen, right? It’s just the humans trying to summon a hero from another world. The other races will simply choose a hero from amidst their ranks.” (God)

“In that case, have the other races already finished choosing their heroes?” (Giliel)

“No, not yet.” (God)

The little girl answered while scratching her head roughly.

“The setting is that the humans’ hero summoning will become the trigger for the appearance of heroes among the other races. Therefore, if we are able to thwart this hero summoning, the game won’t start no matter how eager the demons are to play it.” (God)

“Is that so...? However, you ended up blundering on its prevention, right?” (Giliel)

“You... you are becoming somewhat annoying.” (God)

Giliel, who was glared at with a fleeting glance of the little girl, becomes flustered and looks in the other direction.

Giliel’s mood improved just a bit after seeing the state of the little girl, who is as a matter of fact her superior, failing without being unable to accomplish it, but she didn’t know what kind of suffering she would experience if she honestly answered to such matter.

Moreover, given that she feels that the little girl would perceive that by just looking into her eyes, Giliel averts her look frantically.

“Well, it’s fine. If you consider the influence towards the origin of the summoned and the summons’ destination, it would be difficult to prevent it completely. It will just work if we completely block all the routes connecting

them.” (God)

“May I also ask for the reason why you didn’t do that?” (Giliel)

“That’s simple. It will probably become a mess for either world.” (God)

The little girl points at a monitor where one of the angels was peering into. Countless numbers were lining up there and those numbers were changing moment by moment, but some among them don’t fluctuate while showing a zero in a red colour.

Just the numerical value of the gauge, which is installed next to that monitor, shows 0.02 and goes up or down.

“This is a route surveillance monitor... and that’s what the thing does.” (God)

“Haa.” (Giliel)

“Those red zeros are the routes which have been blocked. At the current point in time, 5% of all known routes have been blocked. As result natural disasters have started to occur in the world where Renya-san came from. Since it’s not possible to go on like this for a long time, we probably should release the blockade already. Even if we continue blocking them, we won’t be able to stop the summoning.” (God)

“That’s right, isn’t it. If it just turns into a bother, you should release the blockade, shouldn’t you?” (Giliel)

“... Somehow, you alone have quite the non-serious attitude.” (God)

Giliel stated bluntly and readily.

The little girl feels very dissatisfied with that.

The little girl suspected *is that fellow maybe not understanding even half of what I’m telling her?*, but this was merely nothing more than a difference in reaction brought down by a difference in their respective roles.

“Well, it’s not in the range of my work. Even if I were to advise you strongly one way or the other, there’s no way that the likes of me is able to do something that master isn’t able to do, right?” (Giliel)

“That’s a sound argument, however... you are starting to get on my nerves...” (God)

“That’s you venting your anger, master. So, have you decided to cease this large-scaled interference operation?” (Giliel)

“Yes, it will only be stalling even if we continue it and won’t bring any results. Preserving at this point will also increase the costs.” (God)

Once she has decided that, her moving to action is fast. With the words “Little girl’s withdrawal!”, the angels, who were clattering on the keyboards in front of the monitors until then, disassemble the room itself and withdraw somewhere with a level of skill, that can also be regarded as some kind of joke, as Giliel didn’t understand at all on what kind of principle it happened.

The gloomy computer room, that looked like it would become a near future-like cyberpunk stage, vanishes in the blink of an eye and transforms into the usual, empty space which is pure white as far as they eyes can see.

The angels, who performed the withdrawal, bowed while saying “Thank your for your hard work” all together and once once they confirmed that there was nothing left to clean up, they flew away in a far, unknown distance.

They probably returned to their other jobs, Giliel judges.

For those girls the kind of skit over here should have been an irregular job.

“Since we stopped stalling them, they hero will likely be summoned right away.” (God)

The little girl mutters while seeing off the angels who flew away.

“Well, it begins from the selection of the person to be summoned, goes on to the request of crossing of the boundary and the explanation the current situation by the supervisor of the human race and then that human has to consent to it... Since it’s also a standard flow for choosing some gifts or attaching some hero-like skills, it will still take some time until the hero’s advent even if the summoning itself is successful, I think.” (God)

“There are many troublesome formalities, eh? Isn’t it fine if you see the hero off by attaching some suitable skill or gift that’s necessary?” (Giliel)

Due to Giliel being astonished by adopting such an inefficient method, the little girl looked at Giliel in a state of being even more astonished at her.

“Hey, you. For the supervisor of a world, the appearance with the feeling of

“Oh hero...” in front of the person who was summoned, isn’t that a momentarily dreamy and beautiful event if they are supervisors?” (God)

“For real? To what extent have their brains been corrupted?” (Giliel)

“I don’t know, but isn’t it inevitable as it’s a fact?” (God)

“Master, did you actually want to talk about such feelings?” (Giliel)

“Don’t lump me together with them!”

The little girl drew closer to Giliel with a terribly unpleasant face and responded by yelling.

* * * * *

Somewhere not here.
Sometime not now.

In a space with no time and place.

He woke up in that spot which can’t be described as anything but ambiguous. What he sees when he looks at his body is a single woman which had a simple white cloth wrapped around her body and naturally flowing, long, green hair.

“You are...? This place is...?”

The green-haired woman interrupted his questioning voice and closed his eyelids with her graceful, white hand.

The perfume and warmth, he feels from the palm placed on his eyelids, calm down his emotions.

“Ooh... hero. I’d like to give you my thanks for answering the call of the weak.”

The green-haired woman tells him solemnly.
With his eyelids being closed, he couldn’t see what kind of expression the woman had as she spoke those words, but *she’s certainly wearing a kind expression with such voice that is filled with affection* he believed.
And she, believing that he is certainly thinking just that, lifted the edges of her mouth just a bit.

Chapter 78 – It seems to be a night assault 2

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Daytime was very noisy, Renya recalled while sitting half up on top of his bed. From going to a dragon subjugation while taking Liaris along until arriving at the current point in time; it was a clamour that plentifully involved even the surroundings and not only Liaris herself which would have been only natural. It's something obvious, but the dragon Dra-kun quickly returned to the mountains after being introduced all over.

That's a reasonable measure since only his existence near them will give birth to alertness and nervousness which is unwanted by the surroundings.

Another reason was also the abnormal increase in feed cost.

Although Liaris joined the ranks of nobles, her salary is pretty much paid by the country.

Liaris, who didn't prepare anything as she ended up becoming a Viscount far too sudden, was granted quite the large amount of money as funds by the country to cover the costs of preparations in addition to her salary.

That means, that money is in order for her buy ornaments and clothes that befit her social status.

Until then Liaris lived in the teacher's dormitory of the adventurer training school, but a mansion was also prepared for her as it's likely bad for a person, who has a rank of nobility, to live in a dormitory.

Originally she should have been offered to live in a high-class residential area where nobles and their-likes live, but a problem sprung up at that point. For the mansion of Liaris, where a dragon might arrive or depart in emergencies, a garden, which could at least fit a dragon, was necessary first of all. For this reason Liaris' mansion wasn't built in the residential area but in the commercial district and moreover very close to Renya's home. Although several small shops had been already built there, they were all dismantled right away once the building of Liaris' mansion was decided and a splendid mansion was completed leaving people to look at in blank amazement. *They likely pulled some strings behind the scenes for this, Renya judges.* Although that's no more than guessing, what likely ended up making the decision was a dragon coming to an area with a dense population if they made Liaris live in the residential area. *The citizens and nobles probably indicated their disapproval to this. Even if they understand that it's poses no danger and that Liaris has it properly under control as ally, it seems that a dragon's appearance is still something that triggers an instinctive fear within them after all.* *The military district being no good has probably the same reason, Renya assessed.* What decided for her to take up residence in the commercial district is that there's many shops in the commercial district but there's only few population living there in comparison to other districts. *It seems they deemed there will likely be little damage even if something happens.* Incidentally, for it to be built close to Renya's home can be regarded as transparent intention of "Please take care of it in case something happens." Renya felt somewhat hazy about this, but since it's not a bad thing to have a friend live nearby, he decided to ignore the the intentions of someone from somewhere. *Although it's a digression, but it looks like it was decided for Az to live in Liaris' mansion.* Az came to explain to Renya while blushing around his face and averting his sight after giving the doubtful reasoning of "Since Liaris complained that it would be lonely to live in a large mansion by herself", but unable to bear the

looks of Renya and the others, who all grinned broadly, he ended up apologizing and asking them “I’d like you to pardon me from pursuing the matter any further.”

As for the reward to be paid to Renya by Liaris; because of the celebration of a new home, Renya decided to not accept most of the valuable articles.

However, as that article was what decided for Renya to accept Liaris’s request, he took custody of it together with other dummy articles.

At first Renya considered destroying it as he is apparently able to defeat most things with his katana, however not knowing whether he is able to destroy it in the first place as it is what it is, assuming he can place a certain degree of trust in it being the real article, he gives up on its destruction as it’s something where he doesn’t know what will happen if he ended up destroying it.

Calling Frau and Emil instead, he consulted with them about his wish for the article to not reach the hands of people since it’s something extremely dangerous, without talking about the origins of the item itself. Placing it in a box, Renya made with the leftovers of the mithril he received from the elves, he had Emil cast a reinforced seal after welding the upper part so that the lid can’t be opened. Frau dug a deep pit in the garden, the mithril box was placed inside and it was thoroughly covered with hardened soil.

Frau planted vegetation, which is quite unknown to Renya who has called it 「extremely dangerous」, on the section of the hardened soil making it impossible for people to approach.

“It looks like a kind of poisonous plant that was transformed with mana. Though just touching will be alright, if you cut or burn it... it will likely become very interesting.” (Emil)

Emil runs her finger on top of the thin leaves of the grown weed while facing it with an entranced look.

At the time Renya came back to the house while bringing Emil along, everyone except Croire looked at Renya with expressions implicating the remark “Did you return with yet another girl?”

It’s only Croire who is aware of Emil’s true identity, but with her meeting Emil in the middle of this time’s subjugation, Emil being troubled on her further prospects and furthermore with Croire being a person having received help in the dragon capture, she followed up on Renya though it apparently didn’t have

much of an effect.

That Emil, while receiving a tour all over the house from Frau, raised a shout of joy just as they were passing through the garden and plunged into the vegetation that is growing there. She remained in a state of not moving from there all day.

The other members didn't comprehend at all what touched Emil's heartstrings, but once Emil, who in the end examined the garden's vegetation to her heart's content, got to know that it's Frau who is looking after the garden, she roughly carried Frau away, occupied the basement and became extremely friendly with Frau for some reason after they came out.

During that course of events it was decided that the basement would become Emil's room.

From Renya's standpoint, he considered to create a room by destroying a part used by the storehouse for the sake of Emil since there was no free room, but seeing the figures of Frau and Emil, who merrily brought in furniture provided from somewhere, he stopped pondering over this matter while thinking *it doesn't particularly matter if the person herself is fine with that*.

Although it had been repeatedly put off for one reason or the other, it was today that they held the long-awaited welcome party for Az and Liaris since they moved into the neighbourhood.

The many dishes, which were prepared by cooking, roasting and stewing wyvren meat, which they have in large quantities, together with the ingredients, they received from the elven country, by Frau and Renya putting all their skills to use, became something extravagant to the degree of Az making the remark "I haven't tasted such cooking even as noble" after seeing the dishes.

Throwing a large amount of alcohol into the mix there, Az and Liaris were sent home when the party was in the act of being a huge success and after cleaning up it had completely become night in an instant. Renya retired to his room after quickly taking a bath, but it didn't take much time for him to get up on top of his bed after suddenly being woken up.

The interior of the room is pitch black with the window's curtains being lowered and there being no light source. Renya is unable to see anything in this state even if he uses his eyes.

His vicinity is wrapped in complete silence. A creaking sound like a small scraping, is audible from the direction of the room's entrance and although it's only one sound it was to degree of becoming an earache.

Renya had an idea about the true nature of that sound.

Renya, who sat on the edge of the bed after removing the blanket which was wrapped around his body, activates a weakened Light spell.

A pale light, which appeared in the centre of the room, illuminates the room albeit weakly and Renya's eyes become able to see what is causing the small scraping sound.

It was a net hanging from the ceiling.

Renya, who has been previously attacked by Rona, though he invited her inside his room by himself, decided to plant a trap at the room's entrance at the time of sleeping with the implication of not making a strange mistake rather than for self-protection.

If someone steps into it, a net will be launched from a device, that was installed on the floor. It was something that makes an intruder hang from the ceiling while being entangled by a rope that runs along the wall on top of capturing them, but it seems like someone was caught in that.

The sound of small scraping comes from the rope, that is suspending the net from the ceiling, rubbing against the beams of the ceiling where it has been set up.

Releasing a sigh, Renya looks at the inside of the net which is higher than his point of view after sitting on the bed.

The one who is swaying to and fro while showing a despondent expression with her body contracted by the net was Shion.

It seems she came creeping in about the time I went to bed. With an appearance of her feet, shoulders and chest being boldly exposed by what is called a tank top with hot-pants according to Renya's knowledge, it was probably a situation that would usually greatly arouse the lust of the opposite sex, but due to the spectacle of her lightly swaying after being captured by the net, it induces laughter rather than arousal.



Placing his hand on his forehead in order to suppress a headache, Renya addresses Shion who doesn't say a single word while hanging her head in shame.

"I have two questions. Though first of all, I believe the door was more or less locked?" (Renya)

"Asking Frau, I had her open it for me." (Shion)

Shion's answer was just as Renya expected.

Renya doesn't understand something well, but he somehow feels like something is loitering around the grounds of the mansion while they are sleeping.

Frau doesn't say anything about it. Because that unknown something erases its presence quickly and can't be seen when he gets up to go to the toilet in the night, Renya has decided to not say anything, but there's no way for the act of sneaking into the room of another member during the time such things are there to not be exposed to Frau.

Even if you think about this, Frau's authorisation is something difficult to pursuit in various ways when I think about it.

"The second question: Although it vaguely adheres to my expectations if you got Frau's authorization... what for did you come here?" (Renya)

Having been asked, Shion squirmed around within the net for a little while, but eventually resolved herself, properly looked into Renya's eyes and clearly stated,

"I came for a yobai." (Shion)

"Look here..." (Renya)

While thinking *as expected, huh?*, Renya says with a tired voice.

The inhabitants of this world are living fast or have low timidity towards such act? They have a tendency to form sexual relations by making an immediate move and believe to go for it as there's no time like the present.

Renya doesn't know whether that talk is limited to Shion and Rona or whether it's the common sense of this world. He didn't have any intention at all to investigate it either, but if pushed to say, Renya, who acts by the traits of a

Japanese who have a disposition of being herbivores, can't be bothered to usher them in with just a "let's go for a home run" in any way.

"Such a thing is likely no good for a woman of marriageable age, is it?"
(Renya)

"Why? I don't understand the reason for it to be no good." (Shion)

Being asked back in reverse with a blank expression, Renya gives up reflexively from it becoming a sermon with "A woman of marriageable age has to be more modest."

As the other party has the intention to have a sexual relation anyway, she will come with the intention to have sex once again.

In case she switched it to "isn't the rest your problem since it's okay from my side?", it doesn't look like we will be able to come up with an effective objection.

The expression of Shion, who attached a different meaning to the silence of Renya who pondered *well then, what to say to persuade her?*, becomes gloomy.

"It's no good if it's me after all." (Shion)

"Ah, no, wait a minute. I'm currently at the point of gathering my thoughts. ... That's right, having sex in such manner... er, rather because you are giving me your love, my fortune of being born as male will likely be used up, but even if your side's fine with it, I don't think it has penetrated this far on my side. For the time being I'm not starving to the degree that I will devour any meal set before my eyes either. Therefore, such stuff will be after properly spending time together for a little bit longer..." (Renya)

"Ah, actually I wanted to do that. However, I don't have much time remaining anymore." (Shion)

Being told that in a serious tone, Renya looks closely at Shion.
As setting for saying such kind of line, the most standard reason is not having much time in life remaining due to having inflicted some incurable disease, or something like that I guess.

However, no matter how much Renya looks, Shion has no symptoms of that. Given that Renya is no doctor, he isn't able to make out any trends visible by professionals, however after watching Shion, the expression that she won't see

tomorrow is still far off.

Since that's the case it has to be a different reason, thinking that far, Renya recalls the conversation he had with Rona previously.

Rona and Shion were born into quite good families, Renya was told.

In that case it's imaginable as reason that there was some time limit prepared ahead of time between Shion and her family, is what this is about.

“Is it an issue related to your family?” (Renya)

Once Renya asks while thinking *anyway, it's also troublesome because it's a story related to a pedigree of nobility or such*, Shion is surprised temporarily and immediately returns to an expression signifying her agreement.

“Which reminds me, Rona had indirectly talked about that.” (Renya)

There's no denial, thus it means I was apparently right.

After Shion showed an expression of hesitating albeit only a little, she stared at Renya with a serious look.

“Renya, it might be a story that has no relation to you, but would you listen to it?” (Shion)

“Well, I have nothing planned for tomorrow. If it's to the extent of listening, I can do that.” (Renya)

Once Renya nodded after saying that, he urged on Shion with his gaze to continue.

Chapter 79 – It seems to be the confession after the assault

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While Shion corrects her posture by squirming within the suspended net, Renya shifts his attention with a fleeting glance to the side of his bed. Although there's Frau's bed, which she made because of her powerful wish "Frau has to be there no matter what", Frau currently isn't present. *Likely, after she opened the door's lock for Shion, she probably went outside the room to not become a hindrance for the events afterwards. In a certain sense it can be seen as Frau's consideration of "Please enjoy slowly", but probably it's something else, Renya thinks. If it was the "enjoy slowly" and so on, Frau should have told Shion about the existence of the trap at the entrance's door. Her not having mentioned it means that she either approved of Shion's action and decided to leave the further events to fate or she probably found the aspect of not telling her amusing in some way. It's likely one of those two.* As she was able to prepare for Renya who pondered about such stuff, Shion begins to talk,

"Renya, I think you are strangely dumb in regards to things that don't interest you." (Shion)

“What a terrible thing to say out of the blue, but... certainly, I don’t care about stuff that doesn’t interest me.” (Renya)

When Renya readily affirms that, Shion smiles wryly.

“Going by the circumstances, have you even forgotten the name of this country?” (Shion)

“I remember it. It’s Trident Principality.” (Renya)

“Then, the name of the Archduke there?” (Shion)

“Don’t know.” (Renya)

Since that was inconsequential information, Renya replied immediately. Not knowing something like the name of the country’s leader doesn’t cause particular problems in living one’s life.

Even in the world where Renya been before, the number of people, who can’t answer after being asked for the full name of the prime minister of their own country, should add up to a reasonable amount.

As there’s no particular gain even if you know it, it’s also not like there will be some loss by not knowing it.

The level of importance of that information was no more than that.

“Being the country closest to the Miasma Forest, it’s fine to say that this Trident Principality plays a role similar to that of a wall for the human continent. Because of that its national power is boasting to be second in rank on the human continent. By the way, first rank belongs to the Holy Kingdom ruling the continent’s centre.” (Shion)

Renya wondered whether this will become a study session in geography or world history after listening up to this point, but deciding to let Shion talk about what she wants to say for the time being, he stays silent and urges her on ahead.

“Her Excellency the Archduchess of that Trident Principality is a woman called Lydia. Her full name is Lydia Femme Fatale.” (Shion)

“Mmh? That means...” (Renya)

Due to Renya interjecting by doubting his hearing, Shion nods and puts a hand

on her own chest.

“Yes, I’m Shion Femme Fatale. As daughter of Her Excellency the Archduchess of Trident Principality, I’m the first princess. Her Excellency the Archduchess is my mother.” (Shion)

If he said that he wasn’t surprised, it would be a lie, but it wasn’t like it could be said that Renya was extremely surprised either.

He had the expectation *she has likely a fairly high social standing*, but although he surely didn’t think that it would even go as far as her being the daughter of the country’s leader, as there’s currently Croire, who is the daughter of His Majesty the Emperor even if she’s ranked as 35th, it’s not something at the level of causing an eye-popping astonishment for him either.

As his thinking apparently appeared on his expression, Shion smiles.

“Well, certainly the feeling that it’s a bit late in the game is strong.” (Shion)

“It was obvious from my expression, huh? Excuse me for that. Even so, it turns out to be quite a distinguished position, that, right?” (Renya)

“That’s true. If you limit it to the human continent, it’s distinguished to the extent of there not being that many people who can afford to not bow their head to me. I’m more or less the next Archduchess as first successor, if it becomes reality.” (Shion)

<The Trident Principality won’t last long then, will it? Is what I think ~no> (Frau)

Renya somehow endures not bursting into laughter due to the voice of Frau suddenly resounding in his mind.

She seems to be eavesdropping on the conversation from somewhere through the path between Renya and Frau.

That’s probably your impression after hearing Shion call herself the next Archduchess, but even if I tell you that there are parts which I can agree with, your timing is far too bad, Renya sent a thought of protest.

“If it becomes reality, so it’s about that actually not happening?” (Renya)

Shion gave a nod to Renya who asked to prevent him hearing that as slip of tongue.

“Renya, you are probably thinking this as well, but I’m... not very smart if speaking the unvarnished truth.” (Shion)

As he hesitates to say yes or no, Renya stays silent towards Shion’s remark. If he relaxed his attention a bit, he would burst into laughter though, especially as there were also Frau’s words from before.

“Honestly spoken, I don’t believe that I will be able to put up with the heavy responsibilities of an Archduchess. I’m confident that I will likely put the country itself in jeopardy.” (Shion)

Stifling the exclamations “Aren’t you an useless kid!? I knew it, though!”, Renya somehow held himself back to reflexively give her a tsukkomi. *Even so, isn’t it an important aspect that the useless child has analysed herself properly as being an useless child?* He also thinks.

From Renya’s standpoint, the person called Shion *is far too impulsive and is unable to read her surroundings much. Because she puts too much importance on ideals, she doesn’t perceive reality properly.* That was his impression.

Renya doesn’t believe that to be something bad. *It’s fine if she follows up with her surroundings if it’s in the range of being patchable. If that’s close to impossible, it’s also an option to give up and persuade with logic fervently.*

Once he considered it like that, he felt like Shion explained her actions adequately so far.

‘In other words, from her point of view the populace of Trident Principality are targets to be protected and existences that can’t be abandoned even if it was impossible or at the borderline of possibility.

Regarding this, there’s also the idea that it’s the responsibility of a stateswoman to choose those to be discarded, but likely Shion didn’t receive education to that extent.

What made her quickly retreat in the elven country was that it was an incident in another country. Since it was about the people of another country being the targets to be protected, not only didn’t she reach out her hand and sword, but moreover it was for the sake of learning that this danger might reach her own country.

Shion changed the evaluation criteria, that’s within herself, in her own way, he

thought and also believed that she's a simple, idiotic child but Renya feels guilty though only slightly.

"Fortunately I have a younger sister who's quite capable. That girl is smart to a degree that can't be compared with me. Therefore I decided to relinquish my Archduchess inheritor rights and hand it over to my younger sister." (Shion)

"Question number one: At the time I went reform those idiots at school, there was a noble with the surname Fatale though?" (Renya)

"That one's from our branch. I was a bit shocked when I heard that she met you, Renya. It would be fine if she didn't say anything unnecessary, but I was worried. It saved me troubles that she apparently didn't mention anything." (Shion)

"Question number two: Didn't your little sister-san hate getting such troublesome matter pushed onto her?" (Renya)

"If I leave the decisions of this country to ane-sama, that method might be reliable, I ended up being told. In the first place it seems like my little sister wanted to be my support as advisor after making me the Archduchess, but I think I ended up making some mistake in regards to that matter." (Shion)

"I see, I understand. So, how's that related to you having not much time left?" (Renya)

"... A hero summoning ritual was carried out in the Holy Kingdom." (Shion)

Shion continues to hang her head in shame.

"I think you are aware that Rona and me have recently moved around in regards to various matters, but in addition to the information brought back from the elven country, the reports from the soldiers guarding the Forest Labyrinth, the investigation of the Miasma Forest and so forth, it all points to the demons' appearances and the activity of the monsters becoming lively recently. And the direct investigation of the demon continent... because of the news of many people who went there, the Holy Kingdom reached a conclusion. Namely, the appearance of a demon king is close or they have already made their appearance." (Shion)

After the hero summoning, next it's the advent of a demon king? Renya think

with a feeling of astonishment without showing it on his expression.

No matter how he thinks about it, it can't be regarded as anything but a game story, but from the view point of this world, all of it is reality.

Which reminds me, Renya recalls.

Emil did say that the demon country is currently turbulent in various ways.

Is it because of the appearance of a demon king or why? Although she has absolutely no intention to talk about the real situation going by what I heard from Emil, can't that be called an educated guess? Renya wonders.

"The thing called hero summoning, is that about summoning someone from a different world like with the Lost?" (Renya)

"Ah, what's different from a Lost is that the summoned person possesses powers qualifying them as hero." (Shion)

"The story still doesn't add up though?" (Renya)

Demon King or Hero are certainly serious matters, I guess, but how does that connect to Shion's time limit? That aspect still isn't clear to Renya.

Or rather than not being clear, he has even a feeling that it's gradually getting more distant from Shion.

"If the next explanation from here on is heard by you, Renya, I have a hunch that I will be terribly made fun of though." (Shion)

"Yea?" (Renya)

"First, the summoned hero will always be a man. I don't know the reason, but I think that's likely because they can be requested to fight with the demon king. This time's no exception either and it's seems to be a man again." (Shion)

That was an argument which even Renya could agree with more or less. If it's only a talk about the act of battle, as distinction and not discrimination, that's suited for men. One can say that's quite obvious.

"We hope and wish for the summoned hero to fight the demon king in order for this world to be saved, but... umm, how to say it. With the summoned hero being a young man... even if we request that of him, that is..." (Shion)

"You are somewhat evasive." (Renya)

“E-Even I don’t want to explain such thing with a serious face.” (Shion)

Shion protest while swaying in the suspended net with creaking sounds. Once Renya tries guessing from her state, Shion seems to be quite embarrassed.

Renya cocks his head in puzzlement wondering where the reason for her being embarrassed about the information related to the hero summoning might be, but as there’s no way for Shion to know about Renya’s pondering, she continues the explanation.

“It’s about which would give a better impression to the hero for currying favours with him and requesting him to save the world, a withered old man, a filthy middle-aged man or a young woman?” (Shion)

“I’m able to understand that somehow. In the first place, in any kind of story it’s a princess who tells the wish to the hero. However, that’s the task of the princess of the country where he was summoned. Isn’t that a story that has no relation to you, Shion, since you ended up falling off the stage of politics?” (Renya)

“Falling off, you say... Renya, you are quite the cruel fellow.” (Shion)

“No matter how much you gloss over facts, they still remain facts.” (Renya)

“Well... fine, it’s certainly true. For example... right, Renya, which one do you prefer, black or blond hair?” (Shion)

Even while thinking *that’s yet another quite unrelated question*, Renya answers honestly.

“My preferences don’t depend on stuff like hair colour or skin tone though?” (Renya)

“Nuu... let’s change it to a figurative speech. For example, let’s assume the summoned hero likes women with big c-chests.” (Shion)

“Okay.” (Renya)

“Now, the princess, who requests him to help us... in case she had an extremely small chest, don’t you think that the probability for the hero to harbour good will towards the princes becomes low?” (Shion)

Though he thinks *the talk has become very common all of a sudden*, Renya tries to consider it.

In the first place, at the point time he answers with “Yes, got it” after being requested something like saving the world, that will define him as an idiot, Renya believes, but how about it if the one who asked for that favour would be a princess who matches his own tastes very much?

Won’t it at least raise the success rate more than a middle-aged man, an elder, a macho or an ikemen?

If I consider that, I assume it’s predictable though there will be some other aspects apart from what Shion says, too.

“I can’t believe it to be true by no means, but... related to the hero summoning carried out in that Holy Kingdom, in order to win the favour of the hero...?” (Renya)

“... After selecting one representative princess from each country, they are supposed to meet with the hero. As this is an agreement from time immemorial, each nation is demanded to abide to it.” (Shion)

Wondering whether he didn’t mishear by chance the words said by Shion which are a continuation of Renya’s words, Renya calmly said after leaving plenty of time in-between and confirming that he didn’t make a mistake in his hearing,

“You guys are idiots, aren’t you?” (Renya)

“It’s not like I’m the one who decided it!” (Shion)

Shion shouts with a bright red face to the extent that it can be seen in the semi-darkness.

Even while thinking that a loud voice in the night will likely bother the neighbourhood, Renya considers that it might be an unexpectedly good move.

Even if I try to give it one reason or the other, it’s a part that can become a weak point of anyone as it’s the weakness of falling in love.

In any kind of story the heroine is an essential part for the hero. Besides, the heroine being shackled or tied is something that happens in many fantasy stories.

Moreover I have a hunch that the probability, that there are men who end up

thinking “Let’s fight for this world” while misunderstanding something, isn’t that low if they are given a beautiful maiden and are set up as Hero-sama.

While that might be true, Renya is unwilling to honestly say something like “That’s a great move” even under threat.

“In other words that means? Originally your younger sister has been chosen as representative princess, but yielding the inheritance rights to her, you don’t want to have your younger sister take such sacrifice-like duty as she already ended up being forced into the role as successor which she has accepted and which holds a heavy responsibility, is what you say?” (Renya)

“If I were in my original social position, there would be arguments that I should be chosen.” (Shion)

“To make matters worse, if the result might be for the Trident Principality to lose an excellent next Archduchess.” (Renya)

“Rather than that happening, it’s probably better if I went, right? I still haven’t lost the social standing of being the first princess.” (Shion)

“Well... however there’s just one thing. Just because you go to meet the hero, it’s not like it’s particularly decided that you will be devoured by the hero...” (Renya)

“If you don’t match his tastes, won’t you be sent back without you having a sexual relation with him?” Due to Renya asking that, Shion answered,

“Rona investigated it in advance... It seems he has already met with several princesses, but without exception...” (Shion)

The phrase’s ending faded into quietness and couldn’t be heard.
They are probably words she doesn’t want to voice out overly much, Renya avoids pursuing the matter.

“As it’s something prosperous... it’s very enviable. It’s just by the way, but is there any penalty in case only one was chosen after he had sexual relations with all of them?” (Renya)

“There’s no way for that to happen, right? The other party is a hero.” (Shion)

Then I guess the probability for her to be devoured is high because of three

reasons, Renya assesses.

First, the reason that no one won't grab the chance if it's the woman making the advance.

Renya didn't know what kind of ritual the hero summoning was, but *I think there's no way for it being a ritual to summon an elderly person like me, he judges.*

Since they are wishing for him to fight, the summoning target is likely a young man.

If he is told "Go ahead and do as you like" with beautiful princess gathered from each nation in front of his eyes, he would be an extremely virtuous man if he is able to endure at this point, Renya thought.

Second, the objective of self-protection.

If he understands that the other parties are princesses with high social standing, one can also say that being passionate with them will connect to protecting himself.

The princesses, who were sent there, are children of other people, too.

Their parents are even the kings of each nation who sent them.

If a person, who was on intimate terms with their own child, asked for their support for some reason, it should be something quite difficult to refuse.

If he ignored the princesses' own will and relied on force, it would likely result in him being ousted by the parents' side instead, but in the case of a hero there's no reason for him to be condemned as he only has an affair with them after having them presented with a "Here you go."

Third, the possibility of him simply being a lustful man.

This doesn't even require any explanation.

He will likely devour what was prepared for him.

"I intended to understand it in my mind, but I haven't managed to sort my feelings... there's nothing in particular for me to lose to the point of being told that it's adultery after exposing that I'm no virgin anymore because of that. If that's the case, before that happens, with you... I ended up thinking, but I didn't consider your feelings, Renya. Sorry. I'm stupid after all." (Shion)

"No, well, being chosen as your partner in such situation is something that makes me happy, but... just because you are pressed by the circumstances, it's a bit, you know, after all, I think. So, when will you go to meet that hero then?"

(Renya)

“Given that it seems various things have to be prepared, I have to depart to the Holy City of the Holy Kingdom tomorrow.” (Shion)

“Hmm...” (Renya)

<Frau, it's as you've heard, but I want to delay Shion's departure. Isn't there some good drug or such for that?>

<A pill with non-lethal poison with a delayed effect is below the pillow of Frau's bed ~no.>

<... Just for reference, why have you prepared such a thing?>

<It's a secret ~nano.>

Renya thrusts his hand below the pillow of Frau's bed which is right next to him.

Certainly there was a single, small earthenware bottle stored there.

Out of kindness a paper with an instruction how to use the poison has been attached on the bottle.

“Renya? That is?” (Shion)

“Mmh? Well... just a little something.” (Renya)

Once he views it in the magic light, the instruction, written with careful handwriting, states following:

<A condition of slight fever and nausea with a single pill. Fever attacks all over, nausea and stomach ache with two pills. High fever, hallucinations, nausea and stomach ache with three pills. Slightly dangerous high fever, cramps all over the body, hallucinations, nausea and stomach ache with four pills. The effects last for around three days.>

“I see...” (Renya)

Opening the lid of the bottle, he spills its contents on top of his palm. Without hesitation Renya left four of the small, pitch black pills on top of his palm and returned the bottle under Frau's pillow.

“Renya, please remove the net. I will return to my own room. ... I'm very sorry

about tonight. In truth..." (Shion)

Without realizing what Renya is doing, Shion says such things. Grasping the pills with his left hand, Renya got up from the bed, walked to the entrance and pressed a hidden button installed in the wall. Responding to that, the rope, which suspended the net from the ceiling, extends slowly and lowers the net slowly to the ground. Once the net has reached the floor, it isn't that difficult to get out from within. Shion, who came out after enlarging the net's hole, tries to leave Renya's room just like that but is stopped by Renya holding out his hand.

"Renya?" (Shion)

Shion calls his name without understanding the meaning of his behaviour. Without answering, Renya stuffs all the pills, he held in his left hand, into his mouth, grabs Shion's left hand with his right hand and hugs the hip of Shion, who leaned on him due to apparently staggering, with his left arm. Renya's height is higher. Shion, who looked at him with upturned eyes, doesn't understand what the hell's going on while being hugged by Renya and simply stares motionlessly at Renya's face approaching her own. Once Renya separates his right hand from Shion's left hand, he puts his right arm around Shion's back as well. It's so that she can't run away. It's also called, being captured.



「んむ……」

驚くシオンに考える時間を与えないように、
蓮弥はその唇に自分の唇を合わせた。

“Nmu...” (Shion)

In order to not give the surprised Shion time to think, Renya placed his lips on hers.

Moreover, once he sends two pills into Shion’s mouth with a quick mouth-to-mouth feeding, he preserves that state until Shion swallows them down.

While unable to comprehend what is happening, Shion made a small sound with her throat and ended up swallowing the pills received from Renya.

After confirming that, Renya gulps down the pills remaining within his own mouth.

Furthermore, after spending time to savour Shion’s lips to his heart’s content since it was a rare chance, he slowly separated his lips from hers.

“Renya... what the heck...?” (Shion)

Shion asks with a somewhat drowsy expression while in a posture of being hugged by Renya.

While thinking *the effect of the poison still hasn’t appeared*, Renya holds up the body of Shion, which ended up having lost all its strength, in his arms and carries her.

Reflecting that it might have been unpleasant to receive a deep kiss all of a sudden for a first-timer maiden, Renya quietly whispered into Shion’s ear,

“Sleep for a while since I will keep you company as well.” (Renya)

Due to Shion gazing at Renya while having a flushed face without understanding the meaning of what she was told, Renya showed her a broad grin.

Chapter 80 – It seems to be a little conspiracy

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“Yes, then I want to begin the meeting for the first let's-laugh-loudly-while-pointing-at-the-hero-after-making-him-cry-by-beating-him-up planning draft ~no.” (Frau)

“Oy, wait... for heaven's sake... just wait a bit...” (Renya)

Renya, who was prostrating on the table with a feeling of gasping, tries to somehow rein in the remark of Frau who has raised her voice.

His face is somewhat feverish and his look is slightly hollow.

With a thin layer of sweat on his forehead, he doesn't seem healthy no matter how you look at it.

Originally that shouldn't have happened to a degree that one might say it's almost impossible for Renya to enter such a state.

Renya has the skill 「Healthy Body」.

It's a skill that tries to keep Renya's body in the very best condition. Even if he was afflicted by sickness or poison and even if those were at the level of being instantly fatal for argument's sake, it's a skill capable of enduring those and rejecting them in a short time.

Thanks to this skill being continuously active, or in other words being a passive skill, Renya is in a state where he won't fall ill or even if he does, his health will recover immediately. But what Renya noticed last night was that he is able to turn it OFF for some unknown reason.

For the sake of confining Shion, Renya had her swallow poison by feeding it to her mouth-to-mouth, however as it's bad for settling his feelings by feigning ignorance, he decided to swallow the same amount of poison he had her swallow, but then realized, *won't it be detoxified by the skill 「Healthy Body」 right away?*

At the moment he thought this would be bad, the message 「Do you wish to turn the Healthy Body skill OFF temporarily?」 popped up in his field of vision. Using the help function right away, Renya, who confirmed that this skill could be turned ON and OFF, changed the Healthy Body skill to OFF.

Putting down Shion, whom he carried, on the bed before the delayed type of poison began to show its effect, he was suddenly assaulted by dizziness when he pondered whether he should try to consult about the steps from here on out with Rona and the others at dawn for the time being.

While placing his hand on the wall reflexively, Renya, who crumbled down to the floor starting with his knees, wondered *how's this an average degree of fever* while spilling cold sweat due to stomach ache, nausea and violent shakes that attacked him.

At the same time he was unable to trust that it's really non-lethal after actually experiencing the feeling himself although Frau said that it's pretty much non-lethal in case such poison assaulted Shion's body.

Due to a level of lethargy that made him even unable to support his body after placing both hands on the wall, Renya gave Frau the instruction via telepathic communication to see to Shion's nursing by calling Rona and his consciousness snapped off right after that.

Renya doesn't know what happened after that.

Once he noticed that it became morning, Renya was put to sleep on his own bed and his clothes were completely changed to something else from what he wore at the time when he went to bed.

Frau was sitting besides the bed and fixedly stared at Renya. For some reason Emil had sneaked into the futon while nude and clung to Renya's body.

“Master, did you wake up ~nano?” (Frau)

Renya tried to answer Frau’s question, but as his throat was dry, his voice didn’t come out.

It was just a sound like husky groaning that escaped from his lips, but due to that sound Emil, who was clinging to Renya, woke up.

“Renya! Good grief, what’s this all about? It isn’t very dexterous to get close to death with a combination technique of high fever and dehydration within your own home, is it?” (Emil)

“Master, I haven’t heard with what method you made Shion-ane swallow it. But, at the moment you held four pills in your mouth, its penetration had already started *no. It was on the verge of getting really dangerous no.*” (Frau)

That means me having made her swallow it with mouth-to-mouth feeding has been apparently completely leaked to Frau.

Certainly, as there’s a mucous membrane within the mouth, that was a logical fact even if I didn’t expect for the poison to enter from there at the time I held it in my mouth.

Maybe the expectation of sharing a kiss with Shion made me restless after I put it in my mouth.

If I consider it like that, I ended up doing something quite embarrassing, Renya reflects.

“For the time being, Renya, it’s better if you drink water... Is it fine for me to give it you orally?” (Emil)

Smiling impishly, Emil asks while helping Renya’s upper body to sit up, Renya has no spare energy to answer.

From the issue of him not reacting, Emil, who guessed that Renya wasn’t in a state where she could mess around with him overly much, applied a water jug, she retrieved from somewhere, to Renya’s mouth and made him hold the water in his mouth.

Due to the sensation of cold water flowing into his parched and thirsty throat, Renya felt his consciousness returning, albeit only a bit.

“Sorry... I was too much of a dunce.” (Renya)

“Yea, really. Well for me it’s fine either way since I was able to use it as excuse

to slip into your bed while nude though.” (Emil)

Emil said that in a jesting tone, but Renya actually knew without being told that she likely tried to warm him up somewhat as he was shivering due to the chills coming from the high fever.

Frau and Croire have too small bodies in comparison to Renya and Rona was likely unable to take her hands off Shion’s nursing.

“Sorry, Emil. You have my gratitude... put something on.” (Renya)

Renya, who thinks *the other party might be a demon, but it won’t do without me immediately expressing my gratitude in regards to her having nursed me*, squeezes out those words somehow while being hugged by Emil.

After showing a slightly astonished expression due to being told that, Emil quietly turned her look towards the distance.

“It doesn’t really matter though. Even I would be troubled if you died.” (Emil)

“For the time being, since it was non-lethal.... poison, I won’t die... that easily, will I?” (Renya)

“It’s not about dying due to poison ~no.” (Frau)

Frau said nonchalantly.

“However, there was the possibility of you dying due to being unable to resist its effects ~no.” (Frau)

“Oy...?” (Renya)

“What is called a lethal poison is one that will reliably kill you as long as you don’t treat it after swallowing it *no. Even if you don’t treat this one, you will only suffer high fever and vomiting* no. ... However, I can’t deny the possibility of death due to the inability of enduring dehydration and fever ~no.” (Frau)

“I-Is Shion alright...?” (Renya)

Renya was flustered as he made her swallow something fairly bad, but Frau shrugged her shoulders and told him that it was something harmless.

“For Shion-ane-sama it’s just a fever at the level of her being unable to stand up and walk ~nano. Probably master ended up taking over all of the bad symptoms ~no.” (Frau)

“She is... alright?” (Renya)

“Alright or whatever, while laying in a futon and being nursed by Rona, she was idling around with a somewhat slovenly smile. And Rona told me, please tell Renya today’s departure was postponed because of the person’s poor physical shape.” (Emil)

Renya feels relieved due to Emil’s words.

It seems only the strong symptoms of its effect were absorbed into Renya’s body at the time he held the pills in his mouth. Apparently only a relatively weak poison reached Shion’s body.

Even so, as it was a fever at the level of her being unable to stand up and walk, Renya’s objective was accomplished.

“Well then, Renya.” (Emil)

Crawling out of the futon, Emil said while putting on her underwear.

Renya believed that Emil had only black underwear because of a vague image, but contrary to his expectations, it was pure white underwear which had fine lace ornaments added in.

The expression of Emil, who puts them on, seems to be extremely happy for some reason.



“You will tell us what happened last night, right?” (Emil)

When he is told so with a smile, he might have been able to feign ignorance if it was the usual him, but since he has shown his shortcomings by having to be nursed for one night due to getting weakened by a fever, there are no means for Renya to resist it.

Thus, after he was made to spill all the details of last night’s conversation with Shion, the first words of what Frau said were strange.

Given that she didn’t want to continue even though they are talking in Renya’s bedroom just as usual, they moved the place to the parlour.

Although Renya’s at the parlour after changing his clothes properly, does his body feel sluggish because of the high fever after all? He doesn’t feel like moving and is in a state of mostly fallen prostrate while he at least rises his body from atop the table occasionally.

“Master, I know how you feel ~no. But if it’s this painful, I think I should detoxify you ~no.” (Frau)

Since it’s a poison created by Frau, Frau naturally possesses the antidote. *She isn’t an idiot that will use poison without having an antidote.*

“No, but... on Shion... since I have forced that condition on her for three days, only me having it easy means...” (Renya)

“I feel like it will be fine even if you don’t care about it much though.” (Emil)

Smiling while looking at Renya, who is completely exhausted, as something very interesting, Emil says with a friendly grin.

“Certainly, the fever seemed to be painful. However, that person appears to be light-headed and foolish for some other reason.” (Emil)

“Renya-san, she uttered “ufufu~” ~no.” (Frau)

The way of having her swallow it was likely wrong? Renya ponders while lying on the table.

However, if I made her swallow it the normal way, Shion might have succumbed to an even worse condition.

If it’s just a generation of the fever’s effects after filtering them through Renya’s

body, this will be painful for Renya, but since that's a good thing, he wonders *wasn't it a good method to have her swallow it through mouth-to-mouth feeding?*

"Well, let's put that aside for the moment..." (Renya)

"Renya-kun, your face is red." (Emil)

Averting his face from the grinning face of Emil, Renya switches the skill 「Healthy Body」 ON for just a bit.

Suppressing only the intense stomach ache and nausea, he reverts it to OFF once again at the moment when just the fever is remaining.

Shion apparently didn't have any symptoms of stomach ache and nausea. So, in that case Renya himself has no obligation to suffer those symptoms.

"Leave me alone. ... It's a fact that it won't do unless we don't take some measures against that hero or whatever. I'm not the kind of person able to offer my friends to some unknown fellow with unknown circumstances." (Renya)

"Even if you say that, is there some move capable of beating him? Certainly there's no way for you to get him done in with a single strike, right?" (Emil)

"Even if rotten, he's the human race's hope. He is the hero that will become the key against the demon king's army ~nano. If we handle it unskillfully, it's very likely to turn the entirety of the human race into our enemies ~no." (Frau)

"At that time I will act as fake hero by killing the demon king." (Renya)

"... Is that so~?" (Emil)

Though she doesn't change her expression, Emil felt cold sweat streaming down her back.

Emil is classified by her peculiar personality, but as demon she feels pretty much only little respect and awe towards the one called demon king.

Of course, in regards to consenting or refusing the demon king's existence, Emil has absolutely no intention to talk even if she was asked by Renya for example, however she feels something frightening in regards to Renya who carelessly talks about killing the demon king.

"For the time being we will peacefully... no, there's no need for that. I want to pick a method of finishing it without allowing Shion to leave." (Renya)

“That sounds like you don’t wish to hear our opinion, doesn’t it?” (Emil)

“Croire-ane-sama not having been called here says everything, I believe ~no.”
(Frau)

Just as Frau says, Renya didn’t invite Croire to this consultation.

“The matter is about human nobles”, he has told Croire, but in that case he should have originally left Emil out of the loop as well.

For Renya there’s a reason to deliberately invite Emil to this.

“After this Emil will...” (Renya)

Looking at the item on top of the table taken out by Renya, Emil nods as if to state her agreement.

“Certainly doing it like that, the rest will be my field of expertise.” (Emil)

“And, in order for Frau to stock up on that...” (Renya) *(T/N Eligible to change as kept very obscure what they are talking about and the kanji can mean various things)*

“Master, in that case you can leave it to Frau ~no. I have already stocked up a really amazing ((amount)) of that ~no.” (Frau)

Frau takes responsibility after hitting her chest with a single *pon*.

Because of that confident behaviour, Renya ends up believing that she will definitely bring out something far more terrific than he requested, but since there’s no particular problem with that, he judges to let her do as she likes.

“By the way, can you maintain Shion’s condition like that?” (Renya)

“Leave that side to me as well ~no. I will do it so that Rona-ane-sama doesn’t realize ~no. For how long?” (Frau)

“It will be fine if it’s at least the number of days it takes to make a round-trip to the Holy City and two additional days after this.” (Renya)

“That will probably be alright ~nano.” (Frau)

Although Renya didn’t know how many days it would take afterwards, Frau affirmed it without even asking about the exact number.

“Emil, I’d like you to conceal the prepared item though? It will become troublesome if it’s exposed.” (Renya)

“I shall hide it perfectly now then. I will display my best ability so that they definitely don’t realize its existence.” (Emil)

Picking up the item he placed on the table by Renya, Emil, who tosses it into the pocket of her coat, nodded her head to Renya’s request.

“Well then, it looks like it will get fun. Will you go to the Holy City, Renya?” (Emil)

“Well, yeah. I will secretly slip in somewhere.” (Renya)

“I’d like you to take me along by all means. Let’s make that the reward for this time’s request.” (Emil)

“... Don’t cause an uproar, okay?” (Renya)

“Got it, master. Let’s later invite members that look to be suitable?” (Emil)

“Frau, please take care of making the necessary arrangements towards Rona. This time she has to cooperate.” (Renya)

“Roger, master ~nano.” (Frau)

Once Frau answered, Emil and Frau saluted towards Renya almost at the same time.

Due to the excessively matching timing, Renya tilts his head to the side wondering what they are doing.

“I will accomplish the order from master no matter how ~nano.” (Frau)

“For the time being, since you have to take part in the operation, Renya-kun... no, master, you should rest your body.” (Emil)

Before Renya says anything, Emil hods up Renya’s body easily. It was the princess carry Renya performed on Shion last night.

“Come now, let’s return to bed, Renya-kun, okay?” (Emil)

“Wai-, oy, wait. I can walk myself!” (Renya)

“No, no, something like making master walk himself... we will properly sleep together this night as well if you are a good boy.” (Emil)

Renya tried to somehow get away from Emil who looks happy, but after struggling for a while, he stops moving due to complete exhaustion.

As he moved vigorously in a state of having a fever, he apparently ended up fainting.

Thanks to his overcompensating skills, Renya doesn't use up all his strength that often.

There was almost no situation where he stopped moving up to this point.

“The efficacy of that poison might be... a bit too strong ~no...” (Frau)

Frau muttered in a whisper while seeing off the back of Emil who is carrying Renya gleefully.

It's Frau's special poison 「Witch Hunt of Insanity」.

Dragged out from Renya's knowledge, its name originates from the five stages of torture carried out to draw out a confession at witch hunts in the different world.

In the user manual there hasn't been written anything but the effects up to four pills, but as for the fifth pill that wasn't mentioned, that, which was until then a non-lethal drug, transforms into a poison definitely killing the person who takes it.

“I should prepare a weaker drug ~no.” (Frau)

“Well, the matter is over”, after lightly reflecting, Frau floated away lightly.

Chapter 81 – It seems to be preparations and work

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It was a work that causes a somewhat strange feeling for Renya, as it means that he would investigate the world he is currently at once more.

I wonder why I have neglected to do that until now, Renya ponders and tries to excuse it with *haven't I just neglected it until it became necessary since it would be unused knowledge otherwise?* But in this world, which he considers investigating now, even the residents haven't investigated things like geography with precision as if it was natural. He ends up realizing that.

Since this was the result he obtained from the information he could gather from normal citizens, he didn't actually know whether there is even more detailed information in the hands of those people who have a position like managing the government.

First, there's no map like the ones Renya saw in his previous world.

Even when he tries to investigate the route to move from city to city, there isn't anything circulating but information at the level of 「You will get there once you follow this main road」, joking aside.

As expected, this stumped even Renya.

Just on paper, there's no way to investigate the route from Kukrika to the Holy

City.

As a last resort, Renya spurs on his feverish body, sallies forth to a bar in the city of Kukrika and sizes a suitable merchant-like appearing middle-aged man. While treating him to booze and food, he tried to endeavour in fishing for information.

As a result, he learned that it takes around one week with a carriage until the city called Gooshu, which is the capital city of Trident Principality, from the city of Kukrika.

Passing the principality's border from Gooshu, it's a distance of close to three weeks via carriage to the Holy City which is the capital city of the Holy Kingdom. *In that case, by a rough calculation in my head, it's around 600 ~ 700 km from Kukrika to Gooshu.*

And Gooshu and the Holy City are more than 2000 km apart.

After he heard that story, Renya was dejected by the pointless vastness of the continent where he currently resides, and once again gave instructions to Frau to end Shion's maintenance of the status quo at a suitable point in time.

Just by going and returning it will take 2 months according to my calculations. If Shion is left in a bedridden state for 2 months, the muscles in her whole body will definitely deteriorate.

With only a few days of being completely bedridden, those called humans quickly wither away to a degree of being able to actually feel the weakening of their muscle strength.

In order to recover those, it will be necessary to train the body several times the number of days spent resting.

Tentatively Shion is a swordswoman.

Despite being inexperienced even at the best of times, the day where Shion will become a decent swordswoman will fade away into the far distance if she ends up losing her physical strength even more.

That was something Renya couldn't bring himself to do as he was probably classified as a swordsman in this world, too.

Even if told that it's in exchange for Shion's chastity.

Besides, it would be a simple story if she is in a condition where she can't be moved, but likely Shion's situation can't be influenced if things advance, especially in a condition where she can be moved, Renya thought.

If I look at it from that side, I can also say that the vastness of the continents in this world is working towards a good direction for me.

Even in case it goes in a bad direction, for example, I will push through with persistence for her sake, is Renya's intention.

"This time I will take care of watching the house." (Croire)

It's Croire who quickly made the offer to house-sit at this phase.

Being an elf, she goes out normally if it's around the city of Kukrika, but she seems to be a bit reluctant to make an appearance at a city with a high population like the capital city of Trident Principality.

Furthermore, the existences called elves have apparently many matters they bear in mind about the existence called Holy Kingdom.

"That place holds the biggest authority as a sacred place where they worship the human god, but I have heard that on top of that there are many people who despise other races due to the doctrine of human supremacy. If the elf me entered their capital, I will likely sow a seed of trouble to the degree of feeling discouraged even if I'm caught, sold and thrown away before long." (Croire)

Croire says while laying bare her unpleasant feelings on her face.

"Honestly said, I believe it's fine if they perish after using this time's hero disturbance as an excuse." (Croire)

"Croire... you are talking in the elven language, right?" (Renya)

"Shion-san is on the sickbed. And since Rona isn't here as she's nursing Shion, isn't that fine?" (Croire)

Now that she has said it, currently all of the members, who can move within Renya's home, are those who can speak elvish.

Rather than that, the only one who can't speak it was Shion.

For her to be minding Rona's existence is probably because she is sensitive towards slander against the Holy Kingdom as Rona is a priest, isn't it? It appeared after he considered it.

"For the human race it's monotheism you know." (Renya)

"Although the name of their god is unknown. This is, well, not only limited to the humans, but also the same for the elves." (Croire)

“Really?” (Renya)

“Yes, as it’s insolent to speak the name of God, it hasn’t been handed down through the ages. This is also the same for the angels who are attending to God.” (Croire)

It was a piece of knowledge he was taught in an unexpected place.

“How about your side, Emil?” (Renya)

“It’s going well... is hard to say, I guess. At any rate, I have to assemble that completely in a few days, right? It’s already a lightning speed construction without me even sparing time to sleep. It’s fine as it seems to be interesting though.” (Emil)

Emil was in the middle of producing the item requested by Renya. The only ones who know what they might be talking about are just Renya, Emil and Frau. Shion and Rona, of course, and even Croire haven’t been informed. The manufacturing location is mainly carried out in the basement to where one can go down from the workshop. The details of that work were decided to be a secret by Renya.

“However, if it’s only about making it, it’s simple, but as you have attached various restrictions, Renya-kun...” (Emil)

“No, well, that’s its scrapping condition.” (Renya)

“Well, that’s true. Besides, even going by Renya’s and the others feelings, it will be accompanied with feelings of guilt no matter whether you use it or are made to use it unless it’s an item that can be discarded at any time.” (Emil)

“That is, well...” (Renya)

“It’s alright, Renya-kun. Well, leave it to me.” (Emil)

In contrast to Emil’s work which is carried out in absolute secrecy behind the scenes, Frau’s part was openly done at the workshop.

However, besides Renya there’s no one who comes and watches the details of her work.

If you ask why, that’s because that work not only gave an extremely bad feeling, but also stunk considerably.

“Master, I’d like you bring me the jar over there ~no.” (Frau)

Her appearance of cooking gently while tossing various raw materials inside the large iron pot which was hanging from the ceiling above the hearth, that has been installed in the workshop, was just like a magician from tales.



Renya, who was asked by Frau, who is stirring the contents of the iron pot in such state, picks up several jars which are on the top of a table.

“Which of them?” (Renya)

“It’s that bright red jar ~nano.” (Frau)

What’s inside the jars was classified by various colours.

Once Renya grasps a jar, which has been coloured in redness to the degree of being sickening, from among them, he hands it over to Frau.

The pitch black smoke, which rises from the iron pot, is something that causes a stimulus strong to the degree of causing one to be unable to stop tearing up and coughing if inhaled directly. It was the kind of smoke capable of causing various complaints by the neighbours to start flooding in if it’s released outside as is, but after Frau asked Renya, he gathers this irritating ample smoke together with wind sorcery and makes it scatter by making it rise up to the sky in one go. With that, the problem was cleared.

There was nothing Frau herself couldn’t deal with if it’s about simple wind sorcery, but she lacked the ability to eject this smoke up to a height where it won’t harm other people.

And so it has turned into a situation where it’s indispensable for Renya to always be next to Frau during her work progress.

“What the heck are the contents of that?” (Renya)

“Poison glands of large scorpions ~no.” (Frau)

Opening the jar’s lid, Frau throws its contents straight away into the iron pot. What emerged from inside was a lump looking like pitch black dyed intestines.

“That’s poison, isn’t it?” (Renya)

“Yes, it’s poison ~nano.” (Frau)

“I know I have placed the request, but will that be alright?” (Renya)

The iron pot, which contained something like a black liquid and clod-like objects, begins to give off an even denser smoke.

Renya condenses it all together and scatters it after launching it to quite the altitude.

During that work progress, a message appeared in Renya's field of vision.

<Information: Appraisal Skill – Poison Smoke Lv. 3 >

“Hey, Frau. Lv.3 poison, what kind of poison is that?” (Renya)

“It's a gentle poison ~nano. It's possible to counteract it with intermediate applied magic* ~no. (Frau) *(T/N: Still struggling how to finally call it. It's of the same system as the “Judgement” thingy used to check whether one's lying but the author never gives a clear classification of the various magic systems used – houjutsu (法術))*

Isn't that at a level where it's already unmanageable by elementary applied magic if spilt? Renya wonders.

At the same time the doubt, whether it's okay to irresponsibly dump such a thing, wells up within him.

However, for Renya it's necessary to discharge that smoke somewhere even if he felt doubts about it.

Also, the knowledge and skill to change it into something harmless aren't in Renya's hands.

Did she notice Renya having a complicated expression in front of the lump of smoke, which was locked up after gathering it with the wind? Frau said, without resting the hand which is stirring the iron pot,

“Even if you don't worry about it, it will become harmless after deteriorating for around one day once it gets in contact with the atmosphere ~no.” (Frau)

“I see.” (Renya)

Even so, in order to not harm someone by mistake, he decided to launch it up to a height where it can't be properly seen anymore.

“Master, if you are surprised by that level of poison, you won't be able to use something like the poison I'm currently making ~no.” (Frau)

“Will it have such harsh efficiency?” (Renya)

“Hmm...” (Frau)

Placing her right hand on her chin and while grasping the stick, with which she is stirring the contents of the iron pot, she continues her work of turning it around so that the contents won't get burned or stuck. Before long Frau, who pondered a bit. mentions something frightening.

“If it’s about level, it will become Lv. 9. It’s a level where detoxification will fail with high probability even if you use an exclusive antidote for it. If its applied magic, it will be inefficient in counteracting it even with high-level anti-poison applied magic. If it’s an antidote like those that can be bought in shops, detoxification is absolutely impossible ~no. And even with a high-level healing medicine like an unusually effective medicine or cure-all, it won’t be possible to completely heal it at all.” (Frau)

“Eh...?” (Renya)

Renya felt like he heard something absurd, but the chattering Frau continues to explain indifferently as if it’s something trivial.

“The effect is mostly permanent nano. If the target was once affected, even healing featured by high-level applied magic will be impossible. By the way, the pharmacists, who can make this level of poison can be counted on one hand even if you talk about the vast continent no.” (Frau)

“Why can you make that, Frau?” (Renya)

Renya tries to throw the question, which appears just naturally, at her. Due to that question, Frau’s movement stopped for a moment. However, as it was really just for an instant, she resumes the mixing work right away.

“Now that you ask me that, I certainly don’t know why I can make it ~no.” (Frau)

“Wait a minute...” (Renya)

“Frau should be originally a fairy specialised in clothing and accessories ~nano. However, for some reason, I can make it ~no.” (Frau)

“Why is that so, I wonder?” Frau tilts her head to the side. Renya judged that he probably won’t get an answer at this point even if he tried to pursue the matter any further due to that gesture, but in reality, Frau happened to know about that aspect. That was something related to the people who were fairly frequently sent into Renya’s mansion. At the point in time they intruded into Renya’s mansion, they turned into

corpses at a rate of 100% as of now.

Their remains have been used as an important source of nutrients for the things living in the garden, but their souls, or rather their spirits have become the feed of the things living in a part of the basement. The majority of what Frau ended up bringing in are circumstances unbeknown even to Renya.

As if only natural, all of their possessed experiences and knowledge has come to Frau.

Likely, someone among those people was an expert in poisons, Frau assesses.

However, this isn't something I have to tell Renya, Frau judges, too.

“Rather than such stuff, master, did you finish laying the groundwork with Rona-ane-sama ~no?” (Frau)

“Well, pretty much... I asked her to cooperate with us after explaining that it's concerning Shion's chastity.” (Renya)

“That's straightforward ~no.” (Frau)

If it's related to this time's matter, Rona's cooperation was essential no matter what.

To begin with, with just Renya, Emil and Frau, they won't be able to create an argument for the upper ranks of Trident Principality. They can't obtain the time and date of departing to the Holy City and the detailed information of the route either.

Considering it from the side of Trident Principality, she is the first princess albeit having no succession rights.

They cannot help being anxious that she will be attacked for that reason if it's leaked to thieves in case things go wrong.

Thus, that information was concealed to quite a degree.

“Because Shion collapsed all of a sudden, it has caused an uproar in the surroundings.” (Rona)

Rona, who was requested to cooperate, mentioned in a complaining manner once she was made to listen to the situation of a drug being administered to Shion by Renya.

Even so, once she heard that Renya's action was for the sake of it not turning into a situation which Shion doesn't wish for, she agreed to cooperate without

having any choice.

“All of it is for Shion, is why I’m ignoring it. And, believing that it can be handled one way or the other if it’s you, Renya, let me give you my information as well.” (Rona)

Saying that Rona illegally tells Renya the details of the information she knows. Of course, that’s a deed which bears the danger of being charged with a serious crime if exposed.

Renya said that he has the intention to kidnap Shion as well as Rona and then to escape to the vicinity of the elven country if it ends up getting exposed.

“The departure was postponed due to her bad physical condition. However, it was decided that we will depart early in the morning three days later instead of today.” (Rona)

“What if Shion’s physical condition still hasn’t recovered?” (Renya)

“The official stance is that it’s wrong to keep Hero-sama waiting any longer. Their real attention is that it probably doesn’t matter whether her consciousness is ambiguous due to her bad physical condition as it will be fine as long as she can lie down on a bed. There apparently was support for such heresy...” (Rona)

Rona, who came to report the new information, told them while grinding her teeth out of vexation, but that was the second day after Shion collapsed.

Renya frowns due to such excessive motive.

Certainly, as it’s their aim, it probably doesn’t matter whether the person herself is conscious or not, but you can’t argue that it’s not related to whether her physical condition is good or bad. However, aren’t they going beyond the level of sleaze-bags too much? Renya ends up wondering.

“There are fools among nobles... With just the feeding of Shion to the hero being delayed, they start talking about stuff like the hero’s impression likely becoming worse... even Her Majesty, the Archduchess, couldn’t restrain those opinions.” (Rona)

Due to Rona having glazed eyes as her rage goes beyond making a full turn, Renya taps her shoulder and tells her “just list the names of those idiots afterwards.”

Renya continued questioning Rona, who apparently restrained her anger somewhat thanks to his words,

“Even if they say that a one-way trip to the Holy City takes about one month, right?” (Renya)

“Yes, but since it’s impossible to talk in such easygoing way, a magic ship will be used to go by flight.” (Rona)

“What’s that?” (Renya)

Renya tries to ask Rona about the details of the word, he heard for the first time, but Rona shook her head hurriedly.

“I don’t know the details about it either. It’s a ship that travels on land and moves with sorcery. That’s all I know.” (Rona)

Renya didn’t comprehend that explanation at all, but deciding to not bother about the details, he only thinks *it’s probably a way to go to the Holy City while moving at high-speed.*

“How much time does that ship require to get to the Holy City?” (Renya)

“Two days, it seems. Since I never boarded it either, it’s difficult for me to ascertain whether it’s the truth or not.” (Rona)

If it’s the truth, that’s a vehicle with quite the speed.

Moreover, it’s probably something quite big, Renya guessed.

No matter how much they say that their objective is to present Shion to the hero, they shouldn’t do something like sending a princess to the Holy City by herself. As there naturally should be a proper scale of attendants attached to her, there won’t be any meaning without a movement method that can deliver all of them at once.

“It’s fine if there’s a gap for me to smuggle in, but... in the worst case I have no other choice but to use another route.” (Renya)

“It’s one troublesome matter after the other”, Renya breathed out very deeply.

Chapter 82 – It seems to be the time of departure

That, which came to a halt in the outskirts of the city of Kukrika, was on time three days later after Rona told Renya the date and time of the departure. As it's something that can't be seen often, the inhabitants of the city ignore their own jobs and gather to watch it. With the opening of street stalls aiming for the curious onlookers who assembled, its surroundings have suddenly been plunged into an excessively merry state.

Renya, who doesn't like noisiness much, stood at a slightly separate place of that whirlpool of clamouring and gazed at its appearance from atop a building's roof.

If described in a brief comment, it was a boorish mass of metal.

As for its shape, it appears to be similar to the snails of his previous world.

Its size is roughly 100 meters in over-all length going by Renya's eye measurement.

There are no wheels attached to it.

Regarding the information related to this, Emil taught Renya the details excessively.

Its fuel is magic gems.

Consuming a mountain of those, it's apparently advancing with its main body floating slightly above the ground in order to travel no matter how bad the road might be.

Simultaneously it's proceeding forward by gushing out wind with an intense force through the propeller that has been installed at the rear of its main body. Course changes are carried out by using small propellers which are set up all over its main body.

Describing it as the different world version of a huge hovercraft can be said to be mostly accurate, is Renya's understanding.

“As an object, which takes tremendous expenses in regards to any kind of operation and maintenance, it’s generally very rarely made use of”, according to the information from Rona.

As for the circumstances that led to bringing out such ship, one is the nobles of Trident Principality regarding the existence called hero very highly.

And the other is the recently abundant supply of magic gems on the market. Thus, it’s possible to fly with it due to the situation where it’s relatively easy to secure the necessary amount of magic gems for operating it.

Renya, who heard that, was secretly troubled asking himself *isn’t that because of me?*

By no means, even Renya could consider that the magic gems, which have flown into the market via Frau, would be used to cause a problem in such a place.

Ahead of the view of Renya, who curses in his mind with *Damn it!* a stir occurred among the onlookers.

A woman, that wrapped up her body with a light blue dress made an appearance on the path, which was created by soldiers splitting onlookers apart, while bringing her attending court ladies and soldiers along.

The black hair, which is usually tied into a ponytail at the height of her head, flows down her back with a natural feeling. Her appearance, with her body clad in a dress of the princess line, was that of a young woman who won’t be ashamed no matter where she presents herself.

Unintentionally the saying “fine feathers make fine birds” pops into Renya’s head.

Right next to her she is accompanied by a blonde-haired woman who concealed her body with a priestess’ garb.

Her proportions, that can easily be recognised even if seen from a far distance, are at the level of causing jeering voices even from among the onlookers.

Of course, such voices ceased right away after the warning of a soldier, who is guarding the surroundings, and a single glare of the person herself.

Renya, who saw their figures off until they vanished inside the magic ship after they came out from within the onlookers, looks at the ship, which began to gush out wind from its rear while raising a roaring sound, floating slightly before long and takes a small breath.

He doesn't know how many tons that ship weights, but the wind force, which is spit out in order to obtain propulsive power, is tremendous.

Fearing to be swallowed up by that, there were no onlookers behind the ship, but the aftermath of the dispersed cloud of dust completely assaults the onlookers and screams, as well as angry voices, reach Renya's ears.



「ここまででは問題なし、と」

ゆづりとはあるが、確実に加速していく船を見ながら、
蓮弥は独り言を呟いた。

兵士達が野次馬の間を割って作った通路の中を、
民族風のドレスに身を包んだ女性が、
お供の女官や兵士たちを連れて姿を現した。
それらの姿が野次馬の中を抜け、
魔導船の中へと消えるまで
見送っていた蓮弥は小さく息をつく

“Up to here there are no problems, I guess.” (Renya)

Renya mutters to himself while watching the ship steadily picking up speed albeit slowly.

Unable to advance along the highway due to its large build, the ship proceeds to a slightly separated place.

What’s different from a hovercraft is the aspect that it can continue to advance at a constant speed once it finishes accelerating because it’s floating due to sorcery.

Making the propellers at various places on the hull reversing their direction at the time of stopping, it apparently comes forcibly to a halt by having the hull touch down on the ground by suspending the floating once the speed has fallen to a certain extent.

It can be called a truly rough vehicle, but Renya somehow ended up liking that roughness.

I wonder if it’s something I can also build myself after downsizing it? He even ponders.

It would be nice if I could get smuggled on that ship though, Renya regrets.

Renya tried to scheme various plans whether he can’t get on the ship with Rona’s help, but the escorting soldiers, as well as the attending court ladies, have their person and personal ID’s strictly checked and thus there was absolutely no gap to slip onto the ship secretly.

Even if he tried changing places with someone, a person, who might accept such thing, will never be chosen as attending member from the very start due to their thorough style. Thus Renya has early given up on the plan of smuggling in.

The method of pursuing them through a transfer gate didn’t work as the Holy City wasn’t registered as transfer gate destination.

The people, who look after the Holy City, apparently hated moving via transfer. Since it’s the sacred capital, which worships God, it’s seen as blasphemy towards God to enter it by transferring in. It seems to be the embodiment of the intention “come entering by walking properly.”

It’s a truly troublesome group of people, Renya’s evaluation towards the Holy City is in a state of falling before he even goes there.

Flying on a dragon after asking Liaris, that was also a complicated story.

A dragon is an existence that will cause a city to switch into high alert even if its figure was merely seen in a far distance.

If he tried flying close to a large city like the Holy City on a dragon, it's like telling them "please shoot me down."

Flying by sorcery was a bit unreasonable, too.

If it was only Renya by himself, he had a hunch that he could manage one way or the other, but Emil forcefully insisted on being taken along.

"I'm someone who has largely contributed this time, right?" (Emil) "Yeah, well..." (Renya)

"You won't tell me that you are leaving me behind or such, will you?" (Emil) Being urged with a smile while having his collar grasped, Renya couldn't help but shake his head sideways.

Reluctantly thinking of an alternate plan, Renya tells Emil about it.

If she were to tell him that it's impossible, Renya planned to say to her that she should give up on coming along then, but due to the knowledge of Renya, who conveyed it with a feeling that could be called vague, Emil got into it with a terrifying force.

What Renya explained to Emil is the existence of a 2 and 4 cycling piston structure and something like an engine that used those.

In addition, a suspension to reduce the vibrations and something like a transmission that made use of gears.

Presenting that, which is slightly fragmentary in his knowledge, to Emil, Renya explained it with a feeling at the level of it being possible to build something called a car once those parts were combined. But, after repeating various trials and errors while taking one night to integrate those, Emil took out a large amount of materials from Renya's workshop and ended up adopting her ideas into a single work in one day.

Carrying its construction out at the same time of the troublesome item creation, which was originally requested by Renya, Renya couldn't form any words due to his shock at the time he saw the completed work.

The detailed mechanism was gibberish even for Renya who provided the inspiration, but the parts, which he could somehow understand from the words of Emil who explained proudly, are the framework, which has been made out of

an alloy of mithril and steel and has been covered by wyvern leather, and the fuel being magic gems.

As for the principle, using gears as an intermediary through a crank axis at the engine, which operates via compressed air that uses wind sorcery, it travels by conveying the movement to the tires which used twined wyvern wing membranes as a substitute for gum.

As brazen four-wheel-drive and because it has furthermore a suspension equipped, it apparently possesses a performance that makes it possible to travel ignoring the road's state.

Being able to carry out the speed adjustment by switching gears with a single operation lever from the driver's seat, it's even capable of going backwards. That driver's seat is fully equipped with even a handbrake in addition to foot levers for breaking and accelerating.

Boasting a theoretical upper limit of 300 horse-power with four people on board, it was the birth of a different world auto-mobile that might be called perfect.

"It has golem control via alchemy and a combination of implementation techniques", Emil says, but Renya wasn't able to understand at all what it will be able to do if it has such things.

At this time Renya felt like he was made to realize the demons' dreadfulness for the first time.

That car was currently stopped next to the building which Renya has climbed. In the driver's seat Emil is sitting with her usual tube top bra, hot-pants and coat. The intake holes, which have been installed at the car's body, are thunderously sucking up air and the car is in a state where it can depart at any time.

"Renya, how long are you going to see them off? Shouldn't we depart soon?" (Emil) Going by the tone of her voice, Emil apparently can't wait to depart any longer.

It's probably inevitable that she promptly wants to try running this new car at full power.

"I'm coming now." (Renya)

Giving a short reply, Renya jumps off the roof, and once he lands without a

sound due to using his knee as cushioning, he opens the car's door and climbs into the passenger's seat.

The chair uses a cloth which was weaved into a fabric by Frau earnestly working at it and has a nice feeling.

After sinking his body deeply into it, coiling the belt, which was provided for the sake of safety, around his waist.

Although Renya didn't even tell Emil about seat belts, this demon's obsession reaches as far as the safety aspect. There are proper seat belts and air cushions for the sake of protecting the passengers, in case the car crashed into something, installed.

A professional engineer is frightening, Renya believed from the bottom of his heart.

Since she has said that this isn't her field of expertise, I don't want to know overly much how far Emil's meticulousness can go in her field of expertise, Renya judges.

Once she made sure that Renya got on, Emil turns a small lever at the driver's seat to the side.

Because strong glass with high transparency to the degree of being usable for stuff like the windscreen still doesn't exist in this world, this is a switch to deploy a barrier as glass substitute which was brought in by Emil as last resort. Because of this, the entire body of the car is covered by a single barrier. It protects the car and its passengers from being hit by pebbles, dust clouds and wind pressure at the time of moving at high speed.

"It might be a bit cramped, but please put up with it." (Renya) Renya said so while looking back over his shoulder to the rear seat.

A person, who wore a black, baggy robe covering them entirely and hid their face behind a white mask on the back seat of the four-seater, is sitting in a state of having properly fastened the belt on their side as well.

Being called out by Renya, that person nodded deeply once.

After confirming that, Renya returns his look to the front.

"Alright, please get going." (Renya)

"Okie, let's go." (Emil)

Emil suddenly stepped onto the accelerator faster than Renya can restrain her

with a “Wait a moment” due to the pitch in her voice.

The car takes off swiftly with an acceleration that presses his body into the seat. Due to the appearance of an object, which they have never been seen before, travelling at a great speed while raising a low hum, screams are raised by the city’s residents, but Emil gradually increases the speed while not minding such things.

「後発してる分、取り戻さないとねえ！」

身体が椅子に押しつけられるような
加速度で、車が急発進する。

当たり前だがエミルの作ったこの車に、
元の世界の車についているような
リミッターなどという装置はついていない。

二度目の人生を
異世界で5

“We have to recover the part of starting late, don’t we!” (Emil) Emil, who says that in an extremely happy voice, is in a state of completely stepping onto the accelerator.

Naturally, as this is a car built by Emil, it doesn’t have a device called limiter as it’s attached to the cars of his former world.

In other words, it will speed up as long as she keeps stepping on the accelerator until the limit of its performance.

“We are still in the city! Restrain yourself a bit!” (Renya)

Due to the scenery of the city passing by as if flying, even Renya is flustered as expected, but Emil doesn’t possess something like good hearing.

“Ahaha! Impossible! There’s no way for me to stop such fun!” (Emil) Originally the vibrations will become terrifying if one drives with such a speed on top of a stone paving with an extreme unevenness, and the damage to the people, who are riding inside, will become substantial, but with the suspension, which was installed in the car’s body, the vibrations are somehow absorbed and suppressed to a reasonable level.

Nevertheless, as the vibrations couldn’t be completely kept down, Renya and the others jolted up and down.

“Ah, geez! Have it your way! Just don’t run someone over!” (Renya) “Leave it to me~!” (Emil)

Emil promises without due consideration to Renya who gives up on restraining Emil quickly.

Chapter 83 – It seems to be the Hero and the Goddess

“Let’s once again reincarnate you who regrettably died, fortunately you possess the strength of a powerful soul. It truly is strength suitable for a hero. I’d like you, who holds that strength, to save the world.”

“For me... for me such power is.....”

Listen properly, I mutter in my mind.

In front of me a fool is staring at his own hands while trembling all over with a feeling similar to “the power that was hidden in my hands” ... er, rather, it’s this time’s hero-kun. However, the strength of his soul, how to say it, doesn’t even possess a glimpse of mysterious power.

There’s also no particular reason for him to have been chosen either.

To begin with, his intellect is a bit lacking since he died young. He’s also only one among the 100 souls I tried to pick out from by setting the selection criterion to fairly decent facial features.

Among the possible selection criteria, this one works well for transferring a person after telling them they’ve died.

There’s often a god who tells them “If you go to the world over there, your previous existence in your former world will be deleted.” However, that’s really exhausting.

Being able to make such efforts so frequently, they have my admiration.

At any rate, it would be bad if not all their karma is erased from their former world. If even a speck of it is left behind, in the corner of someone’s mind, a memory like “Which reminds me, what happened to that fellow at that time, I wonder?” would end up remaining.

If that happens, it would be a disaster.

There’s a proverb stating, “A single ant hole is also just a dike of 1000*.”

Because if one person remembers, it will cause a chain reaction of everyone remembering little by little. It would likely develop into a major incident. (T/N: *"Because of a small carelessness and negligence, something serious will happen"*)

If it's the soul of a person who has already died, this means that said person doesn't exist in their world anymore. Therefore, what happens afterwards is no problem either, because they will have to move fairly actively at the place they are reincarnated.

On top of that, they will have to do various things like making acquaintances, lovers and children in that world.

If one considers these points, I have no idea what the merits of sending an old man into a different world would be.

Expressly reincarnating such a soul in a different world; do you do that just, so he can bask in the sun?

If there was a being doing something like that, wouldn't that being be a big idiot, I wonder?

All of a sudden, I had a feeling as if something just now travelled down my spine, but... I guess it's my imagination?

Putting that aside, currently hero-kun, who is trembling out of excitement in front of my eyes, is important.

He's slightly dim-witted, or to put it in other words, it's fine to call him quite the idiot. But if he was too smart, he would see through my plan or make unpredictable demands.

Sometimes those called humans outwit even us who are beings that are called gods.

There's even a religion where it's described that they ate the fruit of wisdom after being lured by a snake in ancient times, but as a single individual I fully want to agree with that.

Regarding the matter of retaining the facial features at his last moment's, I don't feel like there's even a need to explain.

Not a chance, if hero-san had a face as if it was crushed after being run over and moreover looked like a toad... No way! Who would be able to regard such person as brave?

He likely wouldn't be approached by someone acting as a heroine. The heck, he wouldn't even be able to make friends he can rely on either.

Humans prattling bullshit such as “the heart is more important than the outward appearance” while looking like they were sent flying somewhere with their loose teeth are doing that just for their own convenience. In the end, first impressions are determined by one’s face.

Besides, since I myself have to add gifts and skills, the so-called cheats, to that person afterwards, I would be reluctant to do so if the other party had a face as if it was cut in three and had parts of orcs, goblins and slimes added to it. It would be unpleasant for me, right?

However, if I had limited the beauty factor too much I wouldn’t have been able to gather as many souls this time.

That’s because beauty in itself is actually a fairly rare skill. Thus, reasonable beauty is enough.

“Currently, the world to which you are heading is living in fear of the shadow of a wicked demon king. In order to dispel the distress of the people and to ignite the light in the world once again, your power is needed.”

“I see, this is a different world transfer... so that means I will receive cheat skills from here on out, have a large mana pool, fight repeatedly with a holy sword, yield large quantities of profits by making money out of my other world knowledge and lead a rose-coloured life with beautiful women swarming around me.”

That a somehow amazing dream, is this guy alright?

No, well, I will give it to him though, cheat skills or such.

I will raise his stamina and mana to the limit of humans. However, I will leave his vitality at approximately the same level.

Also, as for holy swords, if I remember correctly there should be many of those since they were used by previous heroes and then left behind over there.

However, as the one fighting will be you yourself, there won’t be any meaning if you can’t master the technical skills.

A three-year-old child won’t be a match for an elementary schooler that’s riding a bicycle, even if he’s placed inside a F1 racer, but does this guy understand this?

Moreover, as for profiting largely with other world knowledge, judging from what I’ve seen after lightly peeking at the contents of your head, I feel like

there's no stock of knowledge that can be turned into money. So, what is this person planning to sell in order to make money?

Although I felt like he's somewhat no good, let's simply proceed as it would extremely bothersome to restart the selection once again.

"Goddess-sama!"

"Huh? Ah, yes? How may I help you?"

Hero-kun called out to me while I was brooding.
For some reason he is looking this way with sparkling eyes. I wonder just what the hell happened.

"A hero is popular with women, right?"

"Th... That is, umm, I expect that you will receive gratitude from very many people."

What is he is talking about all of a sudden, this hero-kun?
Maybe 'that kind' of desire is strong in him.
If he properly does the things he has to do, I don't particularly care. However, how to build a harem or a garden of roses in our world isn't something that I know about.

"Then, then!"

"Haa?"

"First as reward in advance, in this place with Goddess-sama, one ti..."

Before he was able to finish his sentence, I flung a right straight with all my power at hero-kun's face.

My prided blow, which has quite the cutting edge by using my hips properly, clearly seized Hero-kun's face and pulverized his head in one go.

Since he's still in the state of being just a soul that hasn't incarnated, he will return to his original shape with the passage of time even if his head is scattered in all directions or his limbs are torn off.

Even so, given that his actions and thinking are suspended, let's remodel him now so that he can be guided in his thinking, in order to not come up with unnecessary things.

Good grief, talk about investing time and effort.

“Ha!? Just what the heck...”

“You apparently lost yourself due to the heavy responsibility imposed on you. That’s something inevitable.”

I solemnly convey to Hero-kun who reformed after a while.

“Rather than that, as you will enter the world as a hero, I think that you want to be granted blessings by me.”

“Finally, I will be given cheat skills!”

Hero-kun is delighted and his eyes sparkle due to my words.

However, does he understand, I wonder?

In the beginning I told you that you have the power of a strong soul. That in itself is enough power in order to be called a hero. So, why do I have to deliberately grant further blessings of a goddess to hero-kun who should already possess such power?

If one thinks about it for a bit they will realize that it’s strange, though the majority don’t notice it.

Maybe he conveniently understands it as something that’s necessary for him to display his innate power.

In reality, I have to grant at least a few blessings onto him, as he is an existence that would otherwise quickly end up dying .

“First <Swordsmanship> as power for the sake of fighting. Then, the highest levels of the <Sorcery> and <Magic*> skills for all attributes. And <Different World Language> which is necessary to lead a life in the different world. And then, let’s raise your stamina and mana to the limit.” (T/N: 法術 – houjutsu – Kind of tricky to find a good word for it. It’s not the usual meaning of magic as used in the West but more the chinese understanding along the line of taoistic thoughts e.g. alchemistic pills etc.)

“Goddess-sama! I would be happy if I could make slaves though.”

I, who firmly endured wanting to say, “This low-life”, was successful at facing him with a somewhat forced smile.

Even though I have been telling him that I want him to save the world, he wants to make slaves. Just what’s inside that head of his?

I also have the feeling that it’s pointless even if I mention it. In the first place,

the slogan of saving that world in itself is a lie.

“Got it, let’s grant you the skill of <Slave Creation> as well.”

It will be troublesome if he can bend their will even if they decline.

As expected, the skill being used limitlessly without any restriction will be problematic, thus I will secretly add the condition that it will only show its effect if the other party consents.

“As for weapons, since there are items called holy swords in this world, it will be alright if you use those. They can’t be used by anyone but those possessing the <Hero> skill, which is your inherent skill.”

That’s the truth.

On each of these hero events, which have happened several times until now, I allowed the heroes to keep weapons, named holy swords, that possess broken skills, but since the weapon itself was always left behind once the hero died, holy swords are actually quite common over there.

However, since they are nothing more than sturdier and heavier weapons, for someone who doesn’t possess the hero skill they have no practical use.

In my eyes they are items which don’t leave the region of oversized garbage, but royalty and the priests over there seem to be extremely happily collecting them.

“What about armour?”

Now that he mentions it, I wonder why there’s no holy shield or holy armour even though there are holy swords.

I try to remember, but I can’t think of any specific reason.

I believe It’s because a good offence is the best defence... or it’s just too bothersome to create them.

“Let’s see... it’s fine for you to use things that already exist, but... let me give you <Armour Growth> as well. You will have to gather the raw materials by yourself though.”

Since I hate the fact that the things I create take time and effort, let’s have him make it by himself.

It’s a lovely skill that allows one to make armour with a single action, without doing something bothersome such as blacksmithing.

Contrary to my expectations that he will be pleased with it, this hero dissed it in an outrageous manner.

“Eeh? Its usability is bad.”

I swallowed down the words “I will beat you to death” since, hero-kun looked like he wanted to say that it’s a really troublesome skill.

I’d like someone to praise me for somehow bearing it, with only the area around my cheeks cramping for an instant.

It looks like both of us think that it’s too troublesome.

“Well, since you will have to defeat monsters and such in order to raise your level, it will be fine as I feel that you will gather the raw materials on the way. What else can I get you?”

I’d like to think that it’s no crime for me to have really considered for a moment whether to turn this guy down and transfer someone else.

Rather, I hoped he would die to a critical hit from a goblin or slime around the first town, but since that would then result in me losing the game with that creepy demon supervisor, I’ll have him duke it out with the demon king. I’ll just limit myself to just putting a curse on him.

Ah, that’s no good, I ended up attaching the <Supervisor Curse> on him.

It’s a simple curse that lets one fail things that anyone else does successfully, so to speak it’s something that causes an enforced fumbling, but since it’s impossible to take it back now, let’s have him deal with it as is.

It might become a great source of joke material after all.

“Oh hero, greed is no virtue. Rather than that, for the sake of saving the troubled people quickly...”

“Eeh! Since you are telling me to save the world, it’s only fair to give me at least this much service, right?”

You have to go. Losing your ego inside the circle of reincarnation will just turn you into a different kind of living being, is what I want to tell him, but I will endure it with a goddess-like smile.

“Then, oh Hero, what kind of skills do you desire? I shall grant you only two. However, please acknowledge that it’s impossible to grant you a request, that will disturb the world’s balance too much, for I am who maintains this world.”

“Just two?”

“I’m sorry, but this body is one that preserves the world and thus I cannot afford to spare too much energy on it.”

“Guess it can’t be helped then, I will tolerate only having two.”

You have quite the guts to confront a goddess with an arrogant attitude. Let’s pray that the demon king makes this guy suffer nicely.

“First, I’d like to have an enhancement in ‘that’ specific area of night activities.”

“... Got it.”

Aside from the request’s repulsiveness, this is nothing too difficult to realize. I pondered whether I should attach a horse’s thing to him as harassment, but let’s pass on that since it will only cause trouble to the residents over there. I have a feeling that it will be really hilarious to see the troubled looks of the ojousama’s, who grew up as sheltered princesses, after being told to do it with ‘that’ one way or another. But as one would expect, that would be too pitiful. Well, it’s fine as they will suffer quite a bit from making children at a mad pace either way.

I don’t have any intention to hold a sense of responsibility though.

“Then, please give me some amazing ability that belongs only to me.”

There should be some illness for such a behaviour, but I forgot what it was called.

Because it’s something trivial, I wondered whether I should have him emit noxious gas or such, but if I allow him to have something too powerful, the demon king’s side and the other race’s heroes will bring out powerful skills in order to compete and that will result in inflated combat abilities. As that will only lengthen the interval until the next event, I have to grant him a skill with a bit of thought.

Or rather, that whatever-works viewpoint, I wonder, just what kind of ability does he want?

“Then, hero-sama, according to your wish, I shall grant you the skill <Crusade>. As it’s a skill that will raise the abilities of those who are recognised

to be under your command by several times, it will be extremely useful at the time of battle. Of course, if you were to join a party, hero-sama, it will be possible to use it on the members of that party. Since it's quite the powerful ability, it has the limit of working only 3 times per day attached to it."

"Goddess-sama, how stingy."

I raised my head with the gloomy emotion of "don't think that I will forever be your smiling goddess", but I comforted myself with the knowledge that I just have to endure until I transfer this guy. If that wasn't the case, my emotions would have been reflected on my face.

"Hero-sama, the time for you to set off will come any time now. The people of the other world are continuing the ceremony of praying for the descent of a hero-sama."

The ceremony, which should have originally finished a lot faster, took an awfully long time this time.

The obstruction from somewhere is... likely master's deed.

Since that lady has said that we own the regulatory authority of the world over here, I'd like her to stop meddling in strange ways soon.

"I see, then I have to go, I guess."

"Yes, hero-sama. Please, save the..."

"It's alright, leave it to me. Having been given so many cheats, I'm peerless and invincible."

I don't think that's the case though, is what I thought but I didn't voice it out. With the descent of the human's hero in the world as key, the heroes of the other races will probably appear, too.

If this hero moves about as he likes with his character as it is, he will likely get into a conflict with the heroes of the other races. The subjugation target, the demon king, should possess abilities to the degree that a single hero won't stand a chance against him.

However, there's no necessity to pass this information onto the hero.

"Well then, hero-sama... ah, that reminds me, I think I still haven't heard your name yet."

“Me? I’m Yatsufusa. Yatsufusa Yuuki.”

“I see, then, Yuuki-sama, may the fortune of war be on your side.”

With a timing making it unknown whether he finished hearing my words or not, hero Yuuki’s figure vanished as if it was erased.

After making sure that he was gone, I sighed very deeply.

Somehow, he’s a hero that makes me feel like he won’t last very long.

If he doesn’t last, so shall it be. I don’t really care either way.

As long as the human countries have enough spare energy remaining to summon another hero, it won’t turn into a game over.

It might be a good idea to make some kind of oracle and call the next hero before the current hero retires.

“I won’t lose this time!!”

Likely the supervisors of the other races are now hurriedly searching for hero candidates from among the races they are in charge of.

This event generally ends with no winner, as the overall exhaustion becomes too much. Afterwards we will be given a rank by assigning evaluation points, but this time I have to win no matter what.

I reaffirmed my determination by firmly clenching my fists inside the space where only I exist.

Chapter 84 – It seems to be the infiltration into the Holy City

Starting from the conclusion, Renya's party took a mere 12 hours to arrive after their departure.

With almost no breaks along the way, they flat out forced their travel after the sun went down with magic lights.

En route, they easily overtook the magic ship that went ahead.

The magic ship, which proceeded by floating a bit above the ground, can adjust the direction it's travelling by slightly using its propellers after accelerating once. Thus its advance is actually quite calm, but that won't work for the car containing Renya's group.

The mysterious object roared loudly with a speed which overwhelmingly exceeds that of the magic ship, blowing up a cloud of dust with its wheels; as a result the soldiers apparently strengthened their alertness on the magic ship's side, and it turned into a situation where they aimed the ship's armaments installed on the ship's exterior at Renya and the others. However, ignoring those completely, Emil made the wheels drift and spin in the direction of the ship's movement as much as she liked, and in the end, passed the magic ship by going full throttle on the accelerator.

Thus, after Emil indulged to her heart's content in the provoking action of hurling the risen-up cloud of dust at the magic ship, the soldiers on the magic ship's side had no other choice but to dumbfoundedly see the mysterious object off, leaving the magic ship in a lurch with a laughter echoing back to them.

Of course Emil ended up getting plentifully scolded by Renya while having her head grabbed in a vise-like iron claw afterwards.

Incidentally, their travel created a situation of several reports reaching the guild about a monster as yet unknown that roars loudly while shining brightly, but

the people in question had no way of knowing about that.

As for the check at the national border; they avoided that by making a large detour.

Of course, that's obviously a criminal act, but they had no other choice, since Renya thought that it would be bad if they left behind any kind of records that they passed the border.

The alibi for the time they are absent from the city of Kukrika has been entrusted to Frau.

Unlike the magic ship that can't travel on anything but level ground due to its large size, Renya's group's car was capable of driving even on fairly bad roads with many bumps as long as the wheels could touch the ground.

However, the worse the road got, the more the frame's shaking intensified. Renya was barely able to endure it, but the masked person sitting in the rear seat was tormented by a terrible car sickness. It resulted in a state of them gasping for air when they finally arrived in the holy city.

As expected, it's impossible to enter the holy city while driving the car, Renya thought. They got off the car quite a distance away from the holy city and approached on foot.

Renya stored the car in his [Inventory].

Renya was worried whether it would fit since it was fairly big, but him being able to easily store it by using 2 inventory slots, made him surprised all the more.

Once he observes the entrance from the shade of a rock that was slightly away from the entrance gate, he sees that the holy city is the type of place surrounded by high walls all over, and it seems necessary to receive a check-up by the soldiers at the gate in order to enter inside.

Usually it would be an inspection which would finish with him showing his guild card and paying a certain amount of money, but Renya has absolutely no intention to pass through that examination.

After he hides his face by wrapping it up with a cloth so that only his eyes are peeking out, he carries the masked person on his back.

Making sure that Emil had her face hidden in a similar manner, Renya dashed out of the hiding place they used to observe the situation at the gate.

The soldiers raise their voices among each other due to the suspicious human

shadow approaching all of a sudden, but Renya ignores them completely. After he ran up close to the wall, he bent his knees once, filled them with strength, and jumped up.

“Ha?”

While someone’s awfully idiotic voice resounded, Renya’s body lightly flew up to the top of the wall, landed there for a moment, and immediately jumped off from there.

Going by Renya’s estimation, the wall is around 7~8 meters tall.

It’s definitely not a height a human can reach by jumping, much less with a person on their back.

Even so, after coming to this different world and being well aware that his common sense is way off in various ways, Renya had a feeling that it’s somehow possible for him. Since he boosted his momentum with wind magic as support, he didn’t have any doubt that he would be able to jump up.

That is, however, definitely not the same for the soldiers guarding the gate. Unable to understand the event taking place in front of their eyes, moreover, not willing to accept it as reality, they easily fell into a state of being unable to think.

Their thinking restarted a while after Renya jumped off the wall and vanished into the city.

All of those who ended up seeing that looked at each other, and asked with just their eyes whether what happened in front of them was reality or a daydream. One of them let his feelings show by mumbling,

“I’m sure I just saw a bad dream, didn’t I?”

Taking that line as a trigger for some reason, the soldiers return to their posts again as if nothing happened.

At the same time, voices were raised by the travellers who happened to be present, but the soldiers completely ignored these and tried not to pay attention to them.

It’s a safe bet the root of their behaviour was founded in their fear, not wanting to get involved with a monster that can overtake a wall with such a height.

It is a digression, but Emil easily jumped over the wall using her own abilities, without landing once like Renya or using magic as support.

One can say being burdened with the weight of only one person is the difference, but it's also a fact that proves the high physical ability of demons. Having jumped over the wall, Renya immediately removes the cloth covering his face and stores it in his [Inventory]. He continues to run under cover without stopping his feet.

"Renya-kun, although we managed to get away from the gate in this course of events, what do you plan to do from now on?" (Emil)

As Renya tries to get away from the gate and wall at high speed for the time being, Emil, who runs next to him without falling behind at all, asks him that.

"First we look for an inn, I guess." (Renya)

No matter what we do after this, first, I have to lower the person on my back at some quiet place, Renya judges.

After the severe car sickness, on top of being forced to walk for quite a long distance, and put up with the series of absurd maneuvers while escaping the gate, that person is leaning against Renya's back completely limp.

"I wonder whether we can find one, an inn, that is." (Emil)

As they avoided the checkpoint and the holy city's gate, Renya's group currently has no means to prove their own identity.

"I think somewhere there will be an inn where we can stay at, as long as we fork over the money to do so, but the problem is..." (Renya)

Renya muttered those words as he stopped in an alley with no people.

"I'm completely unfamiliar with this city, I guess?" (Renya)

"It's the first time for me as well, to come to the Holy City." (Emil)

"If it's an inn, probably... in that direction..."

The masked person, who leaned on Renya's back, pointed in a direction with a slightly trembling finger, but Renya shook his head right away.

"In case of regular inns, they will always demand identification papers, won't they?" (Renya)

"Then...?"

“A place with little pedestrian traffic... right, where’s a place that looks like a slum? There must be one in the Holy City as well, right?” (Renya)

From the beginning, Renya doesn’t believe in the existence of a world without a single shadow, where god’s power shines widely even unto the lower classes.

If there’s light, there will always be a shadow somewhere.

And, the stronger that light becomes, the deeper the shadows grow.

“There are three gates in the Holy City: east, south and west, but... there’s no gate in the north.”

No matter from where you look at the city, there’s an elegant castle in its centre.

With that playing a central role, the locations close to the centre are flourishing places, Renya assesses.

In that case, the slum-like places are surely situated at parts of the city’s outer circumferences, but this time these sections are close to the gates, with their intense traffic of people coming and going.

If the slums are the first thing people entering the holy city see, it will give the city a really bad reputation.

For that reason they didn’t build a gate in the north, gathering such people along the northern wall.

“I see, close to the northern wall, eh?”

Once they knew the location, it was no trouble for Renya and Emil to go there.

Even if they don’t know the way, it doesn’t matter as long as they move along the roofs.

The two easily jumped over the protective wall surrounding the city after all. Climbing on the roof of a building was easy.

Of course, the masked person remained on Renya’s back as is.

Once they go up on top of a roof from the deserted alley, they attract the attention of some people.

However, the very low number of residents that noticed Renya’s group didn’t report them as suspicious characters to the guards, even if they called out to Renya and the others.

The reason for that is that Renya’s group’s moving speed was far too fast.

At the time they wondered whether something was there or not, they couldn't see them anymore.

Moreover, Renya's group makes almost no sound.

Due to the two's footsteps being silent even as they jump from one roof to the other, those who were able to guess that it was likely people running there, close their mouths while pretending not having seen anything.

The bodily movements of those two had deviated from common sense to such an extent.

Emil, who was running behind Renya, harboured such thoughts as well.

Not only can he still run atop the roofs keeping his body's balance while carrying a person on his back, but he doesn't cause any sounds at the time of jumping and landing either. Even from the point of view of Emil, who's a demon, Renya's movements are abnormal.

Emil wondered whether he is wearing some very special boots, but no matter how she looks at them, those are nothing more but ordinary boots.

"The way of using his knees and ankles... I think?" (Emil)

Using it as an actual reference, Emil tries to imitate him while following his movements with her eyes.

While she's doing that, the two quickly arrive at the northern part of the holy city.

Jumping off the roof and landing on the ground, Renya surveys the surroundings around him.

Buildings similar to ruins, and objects that can't be called buildings are lining up in this city block, which is completely surrounded by tall buildings as if to hide it from sight. It was a place with the stench of garbage and decaying flesh lingering in the air.

At the roadside, there are small figures of people that wore rags, and old people lying directly on the ground while exposing their thin, decaying limbs.

There are also women who tempt clients by exposing their unhealthy-looking skin as much as possible.

Furthermore, there are ruffians with bad looks, who covered their bodies in misappropriated armours with leather or supplemented by metal plates.

In their hands, they are tightly grasping a great variety of drawn weapons, likely sullied with a considerable large amount of blood no matter how you look at

them. The masked person on Renya's back reflexively fills their hands with strength and grabs Renya's shoulders.

Speaking of Renya, he sighs with a somewhat disgusted mood, due to his impression that they are really too blatant. Emil next to him continues to stare at Renya's movements while smiling as if there's something funny about it.

"Oi, you guys... didn't you come down from above just now?"

One man from the group of bad-looking men starts to talk to Renya. He's a middle-aged man who had small swords hanging on both sides of his leather armour, and hid one of his eyes behind an eyepatch. His unkempt, ruffled hair is filthy and oily, and he stinks with a bad stench if you just get close to him.

"We didn't know the way, so we got here from above."

It didn't seem like the man understood Renya's words about getting here from above, but even the man was apparently capable of understanding the part about not knowing the way.

"Outsiders? ... Do ya understand where ya are?"

Is it because they realized that Renya and the others aren't residents of the holy city? The ruffian's atmosphere changes.

His stare stickily licked Emil's body all over. Emil's smile transformed into an extremely displeased one.

"Somehow, yes. ... We are looking for an inn, but do you know a good place?"
(Renya)

"You an idiot? Inns are at the main street. Something like an inn, there ain't any in a place like this."

"Really? Then we will search somewhere else." (Renya)

"Wait, sonny. If ya ask others 'bout something, ya gotta pay, right? I ain't tellin' ya to leave behind all ya have. Just leave that nee-chan o'er there. Don't worry, we'll return her after we finish our business with her."

Judging that he won't be able to obtain the necessary information, Renya tried to turn his back on the man, but the man's voice stops his feet.

While turning and looking around, he can see that the women and elderly, who were at the roadside until now, quickly left towards somewhere after sensing the dangerous mood.

The bad-looking ruffians, who were behind the man that called out to Renya, raise the weapons in their hands as if unnaturally showing them off, and slowly come closer. Renya tapped Emil's shoulder while looking at them with the feeling of seeing something foolish.

"Emil, it looks like they are asking for you." (Renya)

Those words of Renya were a permission for Emil.

Being allowed to make a move, Emil's face was warped as it exposed her discomfort, but her eyes were filled with joy and her lips slanted upwards into the shape of a crescent moon.

"Is it fine for me to deal with everyone here?" (Emil)

"Annihilate them, they are troublesome... If you can search for information from their corpses, please extract the one pointing us to a reasonably clean inn where we can stay by paying money. Can you do that?" (Renya)

"Leave it to me." (Emil)

Making the cuff of her coat flutter, Emil leaves from in front of Renya. Seeing her petite figure approach, all the ruffian broke out into laughter.

"Ah right, be obedient and don't look at us with scornful eyes, okay?"

"You are annoying." (Emil)

One of the men misunderstood Emil's approach as her having resolved herself. He went in front and tried to grab Emil, but the arm casually swung by Emil mowed down the place where the man's head was. As the man's head vanished, a vividly red flower bloomed on a dirty wall so much that it sticks out like a sore thumb.

The ruffians dumbfoundedly watch the collapsing figure of the man, while a fountain of blood vigorously gushes out from the neck's section, unable to understand what might have happened there.

"Aah, damn it! If I crush the head, extracting the information won't work, will it?" (Emil)

Emil grumbles while swinging her slender and flexible arms, which don't seem like they could tear a man's head off as if it wasn't there at all moments ago.

"You all are too fragile, aren't you? You are torn to pieces with me just pushing a bit. Don't you think so?" (Emil)

Emil taps the shoulder of another man while asking. Even though it should have only been that much, the man's body, which had its shoulder hit, is slapped into the ground, where it bursts into fresh blood and flesh in a grand manner while causing a damp sound. The ruffians, who had two of their group killed in the twinkling of an eye, are unable to voice out any words, and can't move a single step due to the overwhelming violence. Only Emil's sigh echoes in the space dominated by silence.

"Haa... moderation is difficult. It looks like I barely avoided breaking the head though." (Emil)

Treating the head that is rolling around after being torn off the body of the man that was slapped into the ground just like a ball with her feet, Emil gazes at the ruffians, who began to emit greasy sweat as their faces turned pale, while smiling sweetly.

"Well then, let's get it done quickly. My master desires information and my companion is exhausted." (Emil)

Without pleading for their lives, the ruffians weren't allowed to even run away. It didn't take that much time until an end was put to their exceedingly immoral lives.

Chapter 85 – It seems to be the infiltration into the Holy City 2

“Uhh yeah... it feels unpleasant, doesn't it?” (Emil)

Hearing Emil groaning for some reason, Renya's expression shows worry, albeit only a bit.

Merely taking a few minutes to mash the ruffians who picked a fight with her into paste, Emil, after lining up in one row all the ruffians who had turned into peaceful lone heads, casts some kind of spell while mumbling something under her breath and extracted the information. That's something that happened just an hour ago.

Even while pulling out the information from the ruffians' heads, Emil didn't try to hide her displeasure and furrowed her eyebrows.

If Renya were allowed to speak about Emil, he would say her character is that of a tenacious demon who won't die unless getting sprinkled with detergent, being splashed with hot water, or having slippers thrown at her. But the current Emil's outward appearance is that of a little girl befitting the description of petite and cute.

There are also cases where one's character is strongly influenced by their outward appearance. Hasn't her mood been killed due to the large amount of blood and freshly severed heads? Renya was concerned.

“Are you okay? If you feel unwell, we can also rest a bit...” (Renya) “Oh, Renya-kun, you are being kind. How unusual.” (Emil)

“Once in a while that happens as well.” (Renya)

Renya says with a disappointed expression.
Emil waved her hands lightly while laughing.

“It's fine, it's fine. Well, just a bit; it's because their extracted memories really

were like those..." (Emil) "Those?" (Renya)

"Experiences of surrounding people, beating the hell out of them, stripping them, gang-raping them, murdering them?" (Emil) It appears that it was something occurring everyday.

It looked like Emil was saying that she feels unwell because of the way she personally experienced it; it was as if being forced to watch the same events from their memories, in all kinds of different angles, since there were many ruffians.

However, Renya thinks.

Didn't you do even crueler things?

Emil looks extremely displeased, as she apparently guessed Renya's thinking from his expression.

"Can I have you not mix up research goals with doing it for the sake of pleasure?" (Emil) "No, well... I think in the end it's the same though." (Renya) "No! Absolutely not! Is it that the mouth that spouts such ridiculous stuff? Very well, let me shut it up until you understand that it's something totally different! Mmh~..." (Emil) "Stop it, you idiot! Don't grab my collar and pull it to yourself! Don't get close while pursing your lips! Don't shut your eyes!!" (Renya)



“You say that, but isn’t this a place for that?” (Emil)

Saying that, Emil surveys the surroundings.

Currently they were in a room with a huge bed that was decorated gaudily to the extreme.

In the end, they finished reviewing the memories of the ruffians who attacked them. But their memories had absolutely no entries of inns like the ones Renya had looked for.

Seemingly in exchange, they apparently contained excessive details of nothing but brothels and the so-called traditional love hotels.

After pondering about it for a bit, Renya instructs Emil to lead them to the most expensive traditional love hotel from the obtained information.

A traditional love hotel is basically an inn for men to bring women along and spend a pleasurable time with them*. *(T/N: Been a bit more liberal here as the raw stayed indistinct with “leading to that thing” which sounds like a huge cringefest)*

If one ignores various matters, it’s possible to stay the night.

Moreover, as it only has one intended use, things like checking one’s identity papers shouldn’t be carried out.

“Why are there such facilities in the holy city though?” The masked person muttered, but from Renya’s point of view it would have actually been strange for them to not exist.

Because people live as people do, it’s simply something that can’t be avoided even if it’s criticized sharply.

If it was possible to completely shut those facilities down, the ones living there would undoubtedly not be humans.

They would be something else completely.

“Certainly this is such an establishment, but that doesn’t mean that we came here to do such things.” (Renya) When Renya declared that clearly, Emil made a terribly disappointed expression.

At the time when Renya’s party arrived at the inn, the man appearing to be the inn’s owner, after throwing a cold glance at Renya and the others, said in a curt tone, “5 silver coins for one night. There’s no meal. There’s a bath, but tell me if hot water is needed. It will cost extra.”

Although he had a brusqueness as if he was annoyed by people, Renya regarded that way of interacting as likeable.

Telling the other party only about the essential things, he doesn't pry unnecessarily.

Isn't he the ideal owner of a traditional love hotel? Renya wonders.

While thinking about such things, Renya threw down 5 gold coins in front of the owner.

A slight degree of change was visible in the unsociable expression of the owner, due to Renya suddenly paying 100 times the lodging expenses, casually.

"The most spacious room will do. I'd also like to have hot water. Can't I have you arrange meals as well?" (Renya) Due to the change on the owner's face, Renya judged that he had a chance and shortly told him the things he requires. After pondering for a while, the owner asked Renya as to confirm, "... These gold coins, are they part of the entire prepayment?"

Renya nodded without changing his expression while thinking 'He took the bait after all.'

"Of course. Since we will impose on you for several nights, please tell me if it's insufficient and I will pay the rest. Please hold onto it if there's some left." (Renya) Once Renya asks "How about it?", the owner takes the gold coins placed in front of him, takes out a bell from his pocket, and makes it lightly ring once.

As if in reaction to that sound, a single female employee showed up from within the inn.

She has features that don't leave much of an impact due to her plain attire.

"This one will attend to you. Just tell her your business. In case there isn't enough money, you will be told by her. I will prepare the best among our rooms. Is it fine with that?"

The power of gold coins is great after all, Renya assesses.

For the inn's owner, Renya is an excessively good guest with good liquidity. The owner apparently decided to accept all of Renya's requests after judging that he will likely be able to get quite the profit if he humours Renya.

"That helps. Thank you." (Renya)

While expressing his gratitude, Renya adds one more gold coin.

“Enjoy your stay.”

Hearing from behind them the words of the owner, who became a bit more affable in comparison to the beginning, Renya’s group arrived at a room after being guided there.

The room’s furniture setup was really simple.

There is a flashily decorated bed with a canopy attached to it, and a size that would still have a place left for sleeping, even if you let 4 people sleep side-by-side in the middle. Besides that, there’s only a depository that appears to have valuables inside, a chair and a dresser.

There are also several windows, apparently for the sake of illumination. They are small and furthermore can’t be opened due to their fixed fitting.

The female employee left a small bell behind, telling them to ring it if there’s some business, and exited the room.

Of course, Renya doesn’t forget to quietly bribe that employee with several silver coins when she was leaving.

Even though she’s astonished about the coins in her hand being silver coins, she smiles broadly and bows. After seeing the employee off, Renya throws himself down on the large bed in the shape of 大 .

The masked person appears to be nervous and sits down on the bed’s edge with a stiff body. Apparently seeing it for the first time, Emil seems to be very interested in such a place of the human race. She walks around the room in circles while examining it all over.

“What will we do after this?”

Being asked by the masked person sitting at the bed’s edge, Renya immediately replied without rising his body, “Sleep. I’m worn-out.” (Renya)

It was slightly late afternoon when they left the city of Kukrika.

They entered the holy city early in the morning.

Being shaken around in a car for half a day throughout the night, while avoiding the check point, and then bypassing the gate, exhausted Renya very much.

Even though one might say that, he actually had recovered his stamina instantly due to the Regeneration skill, but had a mood of wanting to sleep due to exhaustion, unbeknownst whether emotionally or mentally anyway.

“Please wake me up once the sun goes down. It’s fine for you to do as you please, but... going outside is not recommended, okay?” (Renya) “Then I will sleep as well. What will you do?” (Emil)

Emil asks the masked person.

“I want to sleep a bit, too.”

“Then all of us will happily sleep together.” (Emil)

“How did it turn out like this? If all three of us sleep, who will wake us up... geh, if you guys sleep on the bed, I will take the floor...” (Renya) “Don’t make me say it!” (Emil)

While diving into the bed, Emil drove her elbow into Renya’s solar plexus, who is lying in a 大 posture.

No matter how much you call her build petit, it’s a blow that packed the entire body weight of Emil. A blow into a place that, if directly attacked even under normal circumstances, blocks one’s breathing.

Renya, who was unprepared as he relaxed his attention due to finally being able to sleep, ended up receiving it fully.

As expected, if it was done with the full power of a demon, he likely would have fallen into a state of having several entrails torn and coughing up blood. But as Emil apparently hit him in jest, he didn’t take that much damage. However, it still causes Renya trouble to breathe, leading to agony.

Taking a posture of sleeping together by clinging to the right half of the suffering Renya, and changing Renya’s right shoulder into a pillow, Emil beckoned the masked person.

“Since I will be borrowing this side, you take the other.” (Emil) “Ah, yes.”

“Say... ing yes here... that’s wro... ng, rig...ht?” (Renya)

The masked person smoothly slips their body, unhindered, on Renya’s left side without taking off the black robe or the mask.

Though it takes the form of this side gently snuggling up to Renya, his left arm is still used as pillow.

Renya voices out his objection after painfully gasping, but he can’t get either Emil or the masked person to pay any attention to him.

Moreover, since both his arms are used as pillows, he has fallen into a situation

where he can't move about.

"Okay, good night. Ah, it's alright to leave the task of waking everyone up to me." (Emil) "Have a good night."

"You guys... hey..." (Renya)

Renya tried to somehow extract his arms and shoulders from below the two's heads, but the masked person's side appears to be quite tired. The masked person starts to raise a small sleeping breath in almost no time.

I guess they got worn-out quite a bit during the forced travel, Renya judges. Since he vaguely grasped the level of the masked person's exhaustion, Renya gave up on moving, since it could turn out badly if he wakes them up by squirming around after they got their long-awaited rest.

"You are gentle, Renya-kun." (Emil)

"Shut up... hurry up and fall asleep. I will do so as well." (Renya) Due to Emil's teasing tone, Renya shuts his eyes while judging that he should fall asleep quickly in this situation.

"I will sleep, but hey... what will we do after the sun goes down?" (Emil) Once he opens his eyes and turns his face her way, after being asked that, his eyes meet with Emil's. She is staring at him as if probing Renya's expression, while being in a state of being glued to him as she uses his shoulder as a pillow. While locking eyes with Emil, Renya says,

"You guys will stay here while you eat dinner." (Renya)

"And you, Renya-kun?" (Emil)

"I will... there's a place I want to go to for a bit." (Renya) "Where is it? Can you tell me, too?" (Emil)

Though you already know it, Renya thinks, but it seems that Emil wants to hear it from his mouth no matter what.

For an instant, Renya considered whether he should deceive her by telling her something else, but in his mind, Renya was confident that he most likely wouldn't be able to deceive Emil.

Rather than hurting her feelings by telling her something awkward, there's less demerit in telling her the truth, I guess.

Coming to that conclusion, Renya said,

“I will sneak into the royal castle.” (Renya)

“I see, for a preliminary examination of hero-kun, I suppose?” (Emil) “It’s said that it will take two days for that huge ship to travel here from Kukrika, thus Shion’s group will arrive around tomorrow evening, right? This is my forecast, but won’t the course of events after that be: her dressing up, and then being matched up with the hero during an evening party or such?” (Renya) *It’s also possible they will take it slow, starting from an audience on the day after, giving her rest for one night. But if the hero is, as the rumours say, the type who devours anything without making any difference, he probably won’t be capable of waiting patiently for a woman who came to meet him, will he?* Renya ponders.

If I consider that the hero wants to messily devour her as soon as possible, this forecast is the closest match, Renya was able to imagine.

“You might be on the right track there. So, once the evening party comes to an end, we will storm in during their pleasure time, you say?” (Emil) “Can you really say that considering your current outward appearance...? Well, though the actual performance will be close to it, there’s no way I will agree with doing it unprepared. Besides, it’s necessary to check whether the hero himself has a character as the rumours claim.” (Renya) What Renya knows about the hero at present is all he was told by Shion.

Since it has been investigated by Rona, its credibility is high, I think, but I should try to ascertain it with my own eyes once after all, Renya believes.

In case the rumours were lies and the hero was actually truly splendid, Renya would completely end up playing the villain’s role here due to picking a fight while believing in the rumours.

And not only that; it’s not unlikely for that to result in losing someone who is a trump card for the fight against the demon king.

“Is there anything I can help you with?” (Emil)

Apparently she finished asking what she wanted to know. Emil closes her eyes quietly.

“The best would be for you to stay here while protecting this place.” (Renya)

Renya says, wondering what to say, if she asked him to take her along into the royal castle, to turn her down.

No matter how you put it, I feel slightly reluctant to trespass the royal castle of the Holy Kingdom, which can be called the heart of the human race's strongest power, while taking a demon along.

However, he stopped that pointless worrying.

“... Ro~ger. Well then, good night, master.” (Emil)

“Good night. ... Dream well.” (Renya)

Adding one more phrase, Renya closes his eyes as well.

It looks like he accumulated far more fatigue than he himself expected. It didn't take that much time until Renya's consciousness succumbed to his sleepiness.

Chapter 86 – It seems to be an infiltration of the royal castle

Even though it's called a castle in short, it possessed a wide variety of structures depending on the purpose of each new addition, and the era they were built.

Some parts were built during times of war, and were solid boorish structures meant to be used as fortresses. Other sections were built during peace times, and focused more on an elegant appearance instead of function.

On top of possessing such knowledge, Renya receives a somewhat extremely mismatched impression once he sees the royal castle located in the centre of this Holy City.

The wall surrounding the castle was built higher than the wall around the Holy City, but with only one gate. There was also another moat surrounding the Castle Walls which was too wide for one to jump over, even though it was slightly narrower than the outer moat which was filled deeply and widely with water.

The wall has stones with a width, height and depth of 1 m piling up. With something similar to mortar plastered on them, the overall wall has become pure white.

Since it's several meters thick, it probably has the shape of mud walls on both sides with stones in-between, Renya assumes.

At a fixed interval, there are square shaped watchtower-like structures on the castle gate. Several soldiers have the duty to stand watch there continuously. The massive castle gate was made entirely out of iron, and heavy enough that no thought went to human operation and required a machine to have been installed for heaving it open and shut from the beginning. Once one passes the inner moat, there's a garden continuing until the castle. Leaving that garden, one finally arrives at the entrance to the castle.

Its exterior defence looks reasonably tough, but if one talks about the castle's main part, Renya's information isn't clear on the interior at all. He had the impression that he must not feel like it's ignoring utility and putting emphasis on appearance in any way as long as he looks at it from the outside.

Just like the castle walls, the building's walls are pure white after having been coated with something like mortar. There's no doubt about its beauty.

However, there are many minarets with ambiguous usefulness standing out.

Renya feels like there's exceedingly many blind spots.

Furthermore, the main castle doesn't look like it possesses installations such as slits for firing arrows while defending, and places that are filled with soldiers.

Additionally soil was piled up right below the castle for some reason. It was also a mystery why the castle's base was at a slightly higher place than the castle walls.

Renya worries *isn't there any meaning in the castle walls?*, but thanks to this, it results in parts of the the royal castle being visible from anywhere you look in the Holy City.

Basically, the installations and personnel for defence are deployed outside the main castle. Because of that the main castle itself is an otherworld-like structure, Renya concluded.

“Even if trespassing is difficult to some extent, it's not impossible to get in, huh?” (Renya)

On top of the Holy City's circumference being surrounded by a wall, the castle's circumference is surrounded by an even higher castle wall. I guess quite a cowardly king is living there, he ends up judging.

The place where Renya is currently located at is on top of the roof of a minaret which boasts the tallest height within the royal castle.

Renya, who took a nap while peacefully lining up with the other two, was properly woken up by Emil after sunset.

While stifling a yawn due to his remaining drowsiness, he summoned the employee with the bell and requested the preparation of hot water and dinner for three. After he confirmed the arrival of those, Renya quietly left the inn.

He intended to say that he's going outside to breathe some fresh air for a change of mood if he was questioned by someone, but luckily he didn't encounter anyone and left the inn. As he tried to go to the royal castle, Renya

realized he didn't know the route to get there after all. While heading to the middle of the city through guesswork as a last resort, he decided to run along the buildings' roofs in the same manner as the time he came to the slums. Concealing his face again with the cloth he took out from his inventory, Renya continued running on top of a roof. As he approached the castle, Renya saw its surroundings being protected by a high castle wall and clicked his tongue slightly.

Even if I try to run around the castle's circumference once, there won't be any place where I can enter except the main gate. The moat's width exceeds 20 m as well.

No matter how much Renya's ability is surpassing that of humans, it's not a distance he can jump across.

Renya, who pondered what he should do, takes some distance by separating from the castle temporarily, starts running with all his might in order to guarantee a plentiful approach run, and casts wind magic from the reference point of the roof's edge towards his own back the instant he jumps off while aiming for the castle wall.

The cast spell is something called <Strong Gale> and is originally used to confine an opponent or to throw their posture off-balance with a powerful wind, but he decided to try lengthening his jump distance by blowing it against his own back. That attempt half-succeeded and half-failed.

Renya thought it would be fine if he could jump far enough to at least cling to the castle wall, but the generated wind easily blew Renya's body away due to the strength caused by the charged mana.

Renya's body, which was whirled up very high in the air, quickly went beyond the castle wall and would have passed the garden to be thrown against the castle inner wall.

Renya quickly deployed the **spell from the opposite direction and was able to somehow kill the momentum and perform an emergency landing on the castle's roof.**

There were a lot of other spells to use if it was only about jumping, but the reason he didn't use those was in case of a magic sensitive barrier-like protection being deployed over the entire castle.

However, that worry was apparently pointless. The spell he cast to slow himself

down activated without any kind of impediment. There's also no sign of him having triggered something like an alarm.

Renya believes that to be careless, but if you think about it properly, something like a defence barrier and detection net deployed over the entire castle at normal times will end up costing an outrageous amount of money to maintain.

Such things very likely exist in case of emergency though, thinking that far, Renya cocks his head in contemplation all the same.

Considering it normally, the information that a suspicious character broke through the entrance gate of the Holy City should have been reported to the castle.

If there's such a report, it won't be odd for the castle to adopt some kind of precautionary stance.

Just what the hell is wrong with them maintaining that completely defenceless, normal state? He wonders.

There was no reason for Renya to know about it, but the soldiers present when Renya's group broke through didn't report it to their superior.

If they did, the castle's alertness certainly would have changed into an high alert just as Renya thought. But with them being unable to believe what they saw, they intentionally kept silent due to the fear of having to take some kind of responsibility had they really reported the incident to their superior just like that.

The act of pretending to ignore a problem due to them wanting to protect their position above all else is not a praisable act for a soldier.

That alone was an indication of the low training level of the soldiers of this Holy City, but there's no expectation for Renya to understand that either.

After trying to ponder about it for a while, Renya, who concluded that there's no way to reach an answer no matter how long he thinks it over, abandons the thoughts concerning that and starts with another matter.

It's about where the hero stays within this castle.

Although there was no way for him to make an educated guess from the get-go, he has several ideas about how to narrow down the conditions.

First of all, he's probably not at a lower floor.

That's because there are soldiers acting as guards and patrols at the lower places. At least there are people's eyes everywhere.

Since there also exist owners of peculiar fetishes like getting aroused by being seen, it's not something I can say with absolute confidence. But if he possesses a normal way of thinking, he will decide that it's better to not be seen by people in case he does you-know-what during the night.

Second, there's no doubt that it's a room with a window, I think.

He guesses that from the fact that the other party are young women of royalty and nobility.

Even in a completely dark room devoid of any windows, it might be romantic if he laboriously relies on the light of candles. But if seen from the side of the young woman being pinned down, it's something that lacks elegance and emotions.

By the way, these are not Renya's views but hints from Croire.

"Since that's how it is, she will definitely request a room with a window where moonlight flows in, or a place corresponding to that at the time she's with him", being told that, Renya ended up being troubled how to answer best.

Third is about him likely using a room with quite the size.

This is information from Shion.

Regarding the relevance of that point, the hero seems to already be boasting about his level of strength indicating him as hero without a doubt. That's not true at all however, as he seems to be in a state of being a great demon king of the night, but completely unable to subjugate even a noble daughter by himself.

As it's impossible for him alone, he's just saying "join my party", and every day after sunset he brings together several people in one place and holds a large nocturnal athletic meet.

Starting to ponder about stupid stuff such as *I guess he won't say something like "can you teach me what kind of games there are besides the ball-toss game and ball rolling?" on those athletic meets*, Renya shakes his head in a hurry and resets his thinking.

Taking the opportunity of thinking about stupid things, Renya ends up strangely admiring *I guess there are athletic meets even in a different world.*

He should be able to narrow down the rooms meeting those conditions quite a bit if there's a rough map of the castle, but there's no way to obtain something like that concerning a royal castle that easily.

The nose of Renya, who wonders *is there no other way but to peek into each and every large place housing a window, counting on vague intuition for the rest* picked up a sweet scent mixed into the night wind.

“Perfume? No... it’s the scent of something.” (Renya)

It’s not something light like a scent attached to a body. It’s a sweetness that feels a lot heavier and thicker.

While it’s only a small amount, it has an intensity capable of penetrating the cloth covering his face and reaching his nose.

Furthermore, Renya’s own body perceives that scent as foreign contamination. He somehow senses that the skill took action due to its void toxification attribute.

“This is very welcome. It seems that the scent is leading over there.” (Renya)

Since it’s called Holy Kingdom for better or worse, the royalty over here probably won’t be fond of something that seems to be this bad for their bodies, even if they don’t go as far as being saints, Renya thinks.

It’s also not something that seems to be used by soldiers during their break.

In that case, the probability is extremely high that the one using it is my target.

Closing his eyes and persuading himself that it can’t be helped in this case, even while knowing that it’s something bad for his body, he sniffs the wind carrying the scent and somehow becomes aware of where it’s coming from.

Renya doesn’t want to approach the source of something that seems to harm his body, but he won’t be able to accomplish his goal without getting close to it.

While hoping that the ability of the Healthy Body skill turns everything nonpoisonous, Renya started to move in the direction of the scent he smelled.

The movement was very easy for Renya.

There’s no particular searchlight flooding in from below, and the castle itself doesn’t have too many light sources.

Moreover, as night is a time where there’s no illumination, I sure can’t imagine humans nimbly jumping from one roof to the other like acrobats, much less without a lifeline considering you will definitely lose your life if you fall due to the height.

After jumping several times, Renya discovers the window from where the scent is apparently leaking out.

Once he lands on the roof above the window without being found, he quietly peers into the window while bending himself forward over the edge of the roof. Apparently intending to ventilate the room a little bit, the window has been opened just a little. It seems that the scent, which Renya smelled, leaks out from there.

The interior of the room he saw through the window was gloomy, but several magic light sources, which have been set up inside, are faintly illuminating the room filled with smoke. Although it was only somehow, he was able to grasp the situation inside.

There are incense burners placed all over the room, appearing to be the source of the smoke emission.

There's a bed in the room's centre which appears to have a lot leeway, even if several people sleep next to each other. There's no other furniture.

Somehow Renya feels like it resembles the composition of the room in the inn he's staying at. He has mixed feelings.

But then again he wasn't able to judge whether the royal castle's room was like a traditional love hotel, or it was similar to an inn's room meant for lovers as opposed to the traditional love hotel over there.

Once he returns his consciousness towards the observation of the room's interior after pulling himself together, he sees several figures of people scattered on the floor.

He didn't know at all whether it was related to life and death due to looking through the window, but when he absentmindedly looks at the bodies' contours, Renya realizes that most likely all of them are women.

And, he perceived that a couple consisting of a man and a woman was intertwined on top of the large bed in the middle of the room.

Chapter 87 – It seems to be an escape due to a blunder

Describing it as 'being entangled' might be wrong, are Renya's thoughts while peeking inside the room.

To say it precisely, it's a completely limp nude woman's body that's not moving as well as a nude man's body moving and twining himself around her, that's the feeling I get.

The appearance of the woman, whose arms loosely hang while moving her head each time she's shaken with no light dwelling in her eyes, doesn't give one the impression of being a human body at all.

She's completely like a doll, Renya assesses.

While drool is drooping down from her partly open mouth, that woman seems to have lost consciousness quite a while ago and appears to have been continuously tampered with in that state, he guessed.

Once he turns his look towards the floor, all of the figures scattered there are women.

Their ages and figures are diverse, but the only common aspect shared among them is their nudity.

And all of them have blank eyes as they have turned unconscious.

When he shifts his attention to a corner of the room, he saw clothes tossed away carelessly forming a mountain, likely worn by those scattered women beforehand.

Dresses like those worn by noble daughters, apron dresses similar to those worn by maids and even ordinary clothes like those worn by the common people of the city, though unknown why they are in this place, are piled up over there.

Once he sees this much, there's no mistake.

"In the middle of having fun, eh...? This is terrible..." (Renya)

It was apparently 6~7 women in total counting the ones spread out on the floor and the one on top of the bed in the middle of the act.

With the one attacking them persistently to the extent of them losing consciousness and the one still in the middle of the act being the same man, it makes Renya wonder whether that's not abnormal.

Though Renya can't discard the possibility that it might be him who is simply abnormal.

He turns his eyes towards the incense burner releasing smoke in a corner of the room.

Once he used the <Appraisal> skill he tends to forget about, a message flowed in.

<Information: Appraisal Skill – Harmony Aroma, a type of incense>

“What kind of incense is that!?” (Renya)

Retorting reflexively, Renya holds down his mouth in a hurry.

“It causes pleasure and lengthens the endurance. It's that kind of incense. It's not necessary for me, but... without this, the oujou-sama's will resist fiercely and break right away. Oh well, even if I have this, almost all of them will end up broken anyway.”

Renya frowns at the voice that could be heard through the slight opening of the window.

When he peeked once more, the person who appears to be the hero had casually tossed on the floor the body of the woman, whom he had embraced until then, and was sitting on the edge of the bed.

Once Renya widened the opening by pressing his hand against the window, from there he smoothly intruded into the room since his presence had been exposed already anyway.

The room's interior is filled with a stuffily hot air. It's teeming with the thick scent of the incense, to a degree that cannot be compared to what has leaked out from the window. With the body odour of man and women added on top, it makes Renya lightly feel like throwing up.

“It's cool to look like a ninja! I wonder to which country you belong?” (Yuuki)

“Me being present... you noticed it from the start, right?” (Renya)

The words leaving Renya's mouth have a far lower tone than his usual voice. Moreover they are muffled thanks to the cloth covering his mouth.

"Of course. I'm the hero. Isn't it obvious that something like the presence of a rat that sneaked into castle will be noticed by me right away?" (Yuuki)

"So that's why you continued unabashed? You are quite the big deal, aren't you?" (Renya)

While his voice is dripping with emotions of disgust, Renya observes the hero below the dim light.

A gently waving dark, or rather light brown, short hair and slender, well-featured looks.

His shapely nose is conspicuous, his chiselled features are deep and his eyes are distinct as well as two-layered.

Going by Renya's opinion, *8-9 people out of 10 will likely consider him to be an ikemen if asked about his looks.*

Since he's still nude, his body's foundation can be seen, but you can't say that he's much of the martial arts type in any way.

If pushed to say, his upper body is feeble and his body isn't that well-built either.

In regards to his lower body, Renya refused to look there.

That doesn't mean that he wants to see the lower body of a woman, but Renya doesn't want to see that of a male even if they beg him to do so.

"I knew that there's no one on lookout." (Yuuki)

"I suppose you have confidence with that as well. Will you let me hear your name too, Hero-sama?" (Renya)

"My name is Yuuki Yatsufusa. It's hero Yuuki. You would do fine to remember it. After all, it's the name of the person who will save this world." (Yuuki)

Renya lightly drops his shoulders due to the hero's own grand introduction as he spreads both arms, still sitting at the edge of the bed.

Because he thought that it certainly will only be something like the customary one, where he will give his own name if asked, he felt like having received a letdown.

It probably can't be helped that he wants to introduce himself this much although he ended up thinking that, there's also no way that the hero, who

introduced himself as Yuuki, knows about Renya's innermost thoughts.

"So? Who and from where are you?" (Yuuki)

"I don't think that's a question you will get an answer for if you ask this sort of person." (Renya)

"Really? That's regrettable. I had such a feeling too, though." (Yuuki)

While nude, the hero called Yuuki looks away from Renya, stands up from the bed, and walks towards the corner of the room.

Yuuki took out trousers that look like jeans from the clothes that were piled into a mountain, and casually put them on.

An ikemen wearing jeans with a bare upper body; for some people that might be a view that drives them mad, but Renya has no deeper knowledge in that area.



Inside his head, he's just pondering *how do I get away from here?*

The only reason Renya had appeared in front of Yuuki is simply because his intrusion had been exposed anyway.

Once I hear what I must hear and see what I must see, there's nothing better than running away quickly.

"I have heard that you are a hero that was summoned from another world, but is that really true?" (Renya)

"Why do I have to tell that to a person who doesn't name himself? Oh well, not like it matters though. That's right. Answering the plead of the people of this world, I came here after being guided by goddess-sama." (Yuuki)

"Is that any different from a Lost? Meeting one is rare, but as for us, such beings aren't that unusual." (Renya)

Renya has no intention to tell Yuuki about him being a person from another world.

To the bitter end, he intends to stick with pretending to be a spy from some country of this world.

Yuuki's expression warped, looking displeased due to Renya's question.

"Something like confusing me, who came here after being asked to do so, with people who got lost by mistake. You are a rude person, aren't you." (Yuuki)

I also don't want to be handled as the same kind as you, Renya retorts in his mind.

It might have possibly ended up showing on his face a bit, but as Renya's face was luckily covered by a cloth, there is no way for his opponent to realize.

"Do you really intend to fight the demon king as the hero? Though you probably can't say that you won't do it now that you have had sex with this many various women." (Renya)

"Yeah. After all, it's the hero's job to defeat the demon king, isn't it?" (Yuuki)

"You are insane, you know?" (Renya)

"I'm sane, you know? Besides, as long as I'm the hero, the people will swarm to this power, blood and body." (Yuuki)

Renya hasn't moved from the window where he slipped in. Without even trying to look in the direction of Renya, Yuuki grabbed the hair of a single woman that was still lying on the ground, and dragged her along then woke her up.

Even though the awoken woman should feel pain due to having her hair pulled, she doesn't react in any way besides leaking a low and quiet moan.

Yuuki's tongue licked her cheek with a *slurp*.

"I don't have to endure, right? It's all-you-can-eat, isn't it? Food as well as girls. Even slaves, I can create as much as I like. Something like a girl being arranged for the night if I say that she's nice, don't you think that leaves nothing to be desired?" (Yuuki)

"You are saying that, as a man you want to always have as much sex as possible and eat as much as you like? ... You, you are worse garbage than I thought..." (Renya)

"No one can stop me. There won't be anyone to defeat the demon king, if they offend me." (Yuuki)

"You are a blabbermouth, aren't you...?" (Renya)

"That's right, it's something that needs to accumulate a bit." (Yuuki)

Accumulate? Before he could think about that doubt, Renya's body reacted to it.

What was held in the hands of Yuuki, who should be empty-handed, is a longsword with gaudy ornaments embedded and a wide breadth.

He swung the sword at Renya from a place quite far from Renya himself. It was a distance where the sword blade shouldn't reach, but sensing the approach of an attack, Renya's body rolls on the ground.

Above him, an invisible blade passed through and cut up the window in a straight line.

"Oh, you dodged it? Your intuition is great." (Yuuki)

"Attacking all of a sudden, eh? What a dangerous fellow." (Renya)

After having evaded the attack, Renya stands up right away and puts himself on guard.

Although he had become a good target for a follow-up attack, since Renya was rolling around as much as he likes, Yuuki's immediate pursuit attack didn't happen.

"No, not at all. In this case, you are the criminal as a trespasser here, right? If it was America, you would have been shot on the spot." (Yuuki)

Being drawn to consent for an instant, Renya immediately creates a voice as if surprised.

"You came from quite the dangerous place, I guess." (Renya)

Due to Renya's words, that can be interpreted as if the place called 「America」 was actually Yuuki's home country in his former world, Yuuki shoulders his longsword while muttering,

"I see, you say you don't know America." (Yuuki)

It apparently was some kind of leading question, but Renya has no intention to concern himself with that.

Fleetingly glancing at the window that was now partially destroyed due to the attack that just happened, he kicks off the ground, hurls himself against the window with his back, and jumps outside after breaking through.

Of course that place was quite high up in the air, far away from the ground. If he doesn't do anything but continuing to fall, he will die.

Seeing as he has already been discovered by the hero, it's not a situation where he can talk about stealth, silence or such.

Renya clads his entire body in a gust of air by activating wind magic with the void attribute, and flies in a straight line towards the outside of the royal palace's grounds.

The soldiers below, who seem to have finally noticed the unusual phenomenon taking place above their heads, hurriedly move and point at the sky while shouting something. However Renya doesn't have the free time to pay any attention to them.

If it's flight speed supported by Renya's mana, something like fleeing from the royal palace should be done in an instant.

However, due to his inability to leave the royal palace, Renya cannot do anything but stop in mid air.

It's because Yuuki stood in the direction of his movement, grinning while holding the sword in one hand.

Of course there's nothing below his feet. Yuuki has moved, in an instant, from the previous room to Renya's flight path. Moreover he's in a state of floating.

"I don't remember you having passed me though?" (Renya)

"It's short-distance teleportation and floating. Since I'm the hero, that much is simple." (Yuuki)

Thrusting the point of the longsword he held at Renya, Yuuki says,

"This is the Holy Sword Tyrping. Its sharpness allows it to cut even through steel." (Yuuki)

"That's also an exaggerated sword." (Renya)

"Please surrender if you don't want to get a taste of its blade. If I learn what country you spy for, I will be able to grasp that country's weaknesses." (Yuuki)

Renya didn't know how much of a danger the item called holy sword was, but 'since it has been expressly given a name, it's likely impossible for it to be blunt', he thinks.

In that case there's the question whether it's possible to fend it off with my katana that's currently stored in my inventory.

"If I grasp their weaknesses, I will also make them offer me the princesses over there or whatever, I guess?" (Yuuki)

"You really are trash..." (Renya)

"As a matter of fact I wondered whether you aren't a Lost." (Yuuki)

Renya looks puzzled at Yuuki due to the suddenly changed topic. Yuuki continued speaking without a single quiver of his sword's point.

"Tomorrow a princess will be presented to me as my belonging. She possesses information that there's quite a skilled Lost." (Yuuki)

I have been exposed, Renya silently stares at Yuuki without making a single sound.

"I wondered if he wouldn't come creeping in without understanding his own

place. It looks like it was a miss though.” (Yuuki)

“So?” (Renya)

“If it’s a miss, then it is a miss. If there isn’t anything else good about it, isn’t that a waste of labour and effort?” (Yuuki)

Renya doesn’t answer.

After all, he didn’t know whether there’s the expression of labour and such in the world over here.

If he reacts strangely here, it will result in him being asked why he knows about it.

“Given that I’m fed up with princesses and such these days... it’s great that I will be given a fresh female knight though.” (Yuuki)

Being grinned at, Renya felt like some snapping sound occurred somewhere in his head.

If things go on as they are, Shion will end up in front of that man who will try to break her with his sinister ways. On top of shamelessly blurting out that he’s fed up with princesses, he mentioned that a female knight is great as the next target.

Even though Shion is facing this place on top of having this much resolve.

Moreover, speaking of a female knight Renya knows, he is reminded of Rona who is a former knight, albeit now a priestess.

If this hero or whatever learns of that fact, won’t he then feel inclined to even have sex with Rona?

Among the skills Renya possesses, , and are started up at maximum power all of a sudden. Renya’s mana, which can even be described as uncommonly weak among humans, gets sucked up.

“You know, as for women...” (Renya)

“Mmh?” (Yuuki)

Seemingly having sensed the abnormality in Renya’s voice, Yuuki tilts his head to the side.

His face transformed into a startled expression as if he had noticed something.

He looked up into the sky while holding down his ear with his free hand.

That was apparently the same for the soldiers who were below. They look up at

the sky while plugging their ears after dropping their weapons.

An intense buzzing in the ears was caused by the sudden change in atmospheric pressure occurring in that place. However, while neither the hero nor the soldiers knew the cause of it at all, they looked up to the sky as they felt some vague presence there.

And, that action wasn't wrong at all.

“As for women, they ain't food to be devoured by you. Buzz off, moron!”
(Renya)

<Roaring Thunderbolt>, one of the highest ranked spells among the wind attribute, was invoked by Renya due to his still raging fury.

The instant it was invoked, heaven and earth was connected by a shining, bluish-white, huge pillar.

Though it's something that happened later in the future; on top of that huge pillar of light being visible from every point within a radius ranging dozens of kilometers with the Holy City as centre, the vibration and thunderous roaring that occurred afterwards assaulted the entire Holy City and caused heavy damage such as collapsing houses and destroying windows.

As for the part of the royal castle that received the bolt directly, a hole was drilled very deeply into the ground with a diameter of ten-odd meters. As if it was natural, the soldiers and buildings that were hit directly evaporated without leaving anything behind.

The hero succeeded in barely evading it by using a short-distance teleport, but he suffered quite the heavy damage during what was called the aftermath.

And, as if it's only natural, the figure of the man who appeared to be a spy of some country went missing after the pillar of light vanished.

Chapter 88 – It seems to be the start of the operation after the blunder

“Say, Renya, didn’t you go a tiiny bit over the top there?” (Emil)

“I might have done a bit too much after giving in to my emotions. I’m reflecting on it.” (Renya)

“That’s right, isn’t it? With damages to the city and letting the actual target, the hero, get away. That’s not very funny now, is it?” (Emil)

The spell <Roaring Thunderbolt>, which Renya fired at the hero, ended up causing quite an amount of damage to the urban areas in addition to the royal castle.

The damage of the spell itself was actually limited. It merely resulted in making a huge hole with a diameter of ten-odd meters in a section of the royal castle’s grounds.

That being said, the hole had a depth that didn’t allow one to see the bottom if looking inside from above.

The problem is the aftermath of the spell. The sound of the lightning strike, together with the vibration caused during the opening of the large hole, dealt reasonable damage to the buildings in the surroundings.

To be more specific, windows were blown off and buildings collapsed due to the vibrations.

After dawn broke, Emil and Renya went to see the actual site while feigning ignorance, but due to the damages brought about by the aftermath, Renya had cold sweat and Emil’s eyes sparkled while laughing hard due to its dreadfulness. Feeling panicked due to the painful looks from the surroundings, triggered when Emil started to laugh loudly, Renya dragged her into the shadow of a collapsed building.

Since it looked like she would hysterically laugh forever if things stayed as they

are, Renya sent Emil back to the inn by asking “What about the masked person’s guarding?” while urging her.

After that, Emil returned to the inn which serves as their base. Renya bought a robe with a hood attached in a nearby store, hid his face, and voluntarily helped out in the transport of the wounded and the removal of debris, which began to be carried out independently by the surrounding residents.

Although Renya knew about it, something like healing magic was apparently extremely precious in this world.

Renya didn’t share that impression from his point of view at all, since he had received healing and had seen Rona use it several times. Contrary to his expectations of a Holy City, which should have enough priests to the degree of actually being able to sell healing, he was told there aren’t that many people who can use precise healing magic by the residents.

Renya was made to realize the fact that the excellence of Rona, who can use healing magic even though she changed her occupation from being a knight, is not something that should be expected.

If magic is no good, how about a kind of medicine, the so-called potion, Renya wonders. With this being the place it is, the price of potions is reasonably good. But it doesn’t seem to be an item that the city’s residents can prepare out of nowhere.

On top of not wanting to stand out, Renya was troubled about his face being remembered. But since he was guilty of this failure, he secretly investigated the general store for adventurers, bought potions, and tried to slip them together with a big amount of money into the emergency rations taken out by the residents. He also sneakily called into the shadows some priests, who according to the city’s residents seem to be able to use healing magic, and tried to negotiate with them to heal the people cheaply by handing them some bribes. *The sole salvation is that there were no casualties or wounded beyond recovery,* Renya sighs. He feels relieved that it hasn’t resulted in something that can’t be undone anymore.

No matter how much the needle of my anger meter ended up peaking out, this wasn’t a spell that can be used inside a city, Renya miserably reflects. *Let’s use a single-target spell that causes a lot less damage next time after a careful selection,* he firmly vowed.

But then again, even for next time, Renya had a feeling he will completely forget about it in case it's released after he gives in to his wrath.

In the middle of his volunteering work, the magic ship, which Shion and the others had boarded, arrives at the Holy City.

Only at this time, the residents rested their working hands and headed towards the arrived magic ship to welcome it.

“You won't go have a look, Renya-kun?” (Emil)

At such time, Emil, who has no intention to help with the work, came to see the circumstances while bringing along the masked person.

Since he has already seen the magic ship once in the city of Kukrika, he has absolutely no curiosity.

Rather than that, I should focus on finishing the work quickly, Renya judges.

The masked person, who was brought along by Emil, extremely increases the suspiciousness of the group by matching their appearance with Renya, due to wearing a robe that hid them completely with the hood lowered as well.

“Even if I go see them, there's no point in that, right?” (Renya)

“Huh? It's the appearance of the lovely Shion-chan in her finest clothes, no?”

“Isn't that the appearance of a calf that has been sold on the market, and is at its final moments?” (Renya)

Due to the words Renya returned calmly, the masked person fell over.

Of course, there's no way for either Renya nor Emil to do an admirable act such as helping the collapsed masked person up.

“I wonder whether the buyer is in good health?” (Emil)

“Well, I wonder about that. By no means did I think that the spell would be evaded though.” (Renya)

Originally <Roaring Thunderbolt> was a spell that will get invoked after chanting for quite a long time while pouring mana into it.

In Renya's case, due to the activation of the two skills: no chant and high-speed recovery, it was invoked in a considerably short time that is unthinkable going by common sense. However, even with that outlandish, high speed invokation, the hero evaded that spell with a short-distance teleport.

Then again, that doesn't mean he was able to completely transfer to a place outside the range of the spell's effect. It was only to the degree of him having avoided a direct hit. But from Renya's point of view, that wasn't expected to happen and thus Renya gave up on further pursuit after seeing the hero's ability.

"But, that short-distance teleportation is a nuisance, isn't it? There's no casting and he doesn't gather any mana either." (Renya)

I think that is far too much of a cheat, Renya grows indignant.

Emil didn't show it with her expression and mouth, but she was filled with the feeling of wanting to return that line entirely back to Renya just like that.

"Most likely it's a skill of <Hero>, I suppose. They are existences that always cause difficulties to the demons." (Emil)

"Then there's no other option but to suppress him with range attacks."
(Renya)

At present, Renya couldn't find any other method to kill him but to corner him with regular attacks, then at the same time as he notices the signs of the hero using a short-distance teleport, use a skill or spell capable of attacking the surroundings.

That's still fine since Renya can activate sorcery without chanting, but if one isn't capable of doing that, it becomes necessary to measure the timing very strictly, otherwise they won't be able to finish the chant ahead of the estimated timing when the hero will teleport.

You might say that he's a very annoying opponent.

"If you do that inside the city, it will result in the same situation though?"
(Emil)

"Guh..." (Renya)

I wonder whether there is a skill such as space control or something similar, which can force my opponent into some field where the damage won't reach the surroundings, Renya ponders.

"Oh well, there's nothing better for their side than us not fighting as much as possible though. So, what will we do from now on?" (Emil)

“Were you able to investigate the flow of events in the castle?” (Renya)

“After being granted an audience by the king in the royal castle, they will be matched up with the hero... then, under the influence of the hero, they will be forced to pledge that they will exert themselves for the sake of bringing peace to the entire continent. Afterwards, it’s been planned to hold a party to celebrate another power having joined the hero’s camp.”

The masked person, who somehow recovered themselves from their toppled over stance, says in a muffled voice through the mask.

Renya and Emil fixedly stare at the mask of the masked person with slightly astonished expressions.

Averting the face as if avoiding their looks, the masked person cleared their throat with a single cough.

“It has been decided that things will approximately unfold in such sequence. Since there’s no need to forcibly change it either, it should proceed like that.”

“I see. If you say it’s just as expected, then it’s just as expected. Things going as expected is far too boring though, you know?” (Emil)

“They are not particularly doing it for fun.”

“Oh, really? How boring.” (Emil)

The masked person’s tone suggests discarding Emil’s comment resolutely, but Emil doesn’t seem to mind that either.

“Do you also know the place where the group from the Trident Principality will stay at?” (Renya)

“The plan is for them to lodge in the magic ship. M... the princess and her friend will go to the royal castle, but the staff of the magic ship and a part of the escorting soldiers should stay behind on the ship.”

“When will the party proceed towards the royal castle?” (Renya)

“I guess right away, after they can prepare the road following their arrival. The audience ceremony itself won’t take that much time either.”

“Hmm.” Renya ponders while placing his hand on his chin.

If I don’t take the consequences of the events into consideration, there would

actually be no need to bring this masked person along.

For Renya, it's the truth that they brought the masked person along thinking about keeping the future matters as simple as possible. Furthermore, it will allow them to push the responsibility away to a place where it won't cause any trouble to anyone.

"Emil, how about the invocation of that?" (Renya)

"It will start up if the hero enters within a 1 m radius of that. I guess it will be a large rampage after Frau-chan's special something was dumped into it." (Emil)

"Are there people from the Holy Kingdom inside the magic ship, too?"

"I guess so. There will be some people who will have preparatory meetings about the security and such."

"All right. Then let's do it like this." (Renya)

Renya declared while looking at Emil and the masked person.

"I will pack for the time being." (Emil)

"Ha?"

It was just the masked person who asked in return.

Emil apparently understood immediately what the best thing for her to do would be from Renya's brief comment. Going around to the back of the masked person, she tightly hugs their body.

"Eh?"

"Okay, let's return to the inn for now." (Emil)

"W-Wait, Renya!? What the hell?"

Renya didn't answer.

The reason is that it wasn't necessary for the masked person to understand what will happen from now on.

Emil has the appearance of a little girl, but her true nature is that of a demon. Because of that, her physical strength is beyond her appearance, or rather, she powerfully breaks through the limit of what can be imagined from her looks.

Emil, who returned to the inn while easily carrying the masked person, carelessly throws the masked person on top of the bed and swiftly wraps their

body up with the blanket, which was beneath the masked person, while leaving only the head outside.

With that all too skillful performance, the masked person ended up getting tucked in without even the time to put up a resistance.

Moreover, with the rope she took out, the masked person ended up getting bound from atop the blanket in the same manner as a chef who prevents the meat from falling apart during cooking.

“Eh!? Eeh!? What the hell is going to happen from now on!?”

There was no voice answering the question.

With the place being what it is, there’s no worry that the voice will leak to the outside. *Even if we are criticized or seen by anyone, they will simply link it to a special play*, is what Renya intended to insist on.

However, in that case, Renya’s shyness would take quite the substantial damage.

“Renya-kun, is it okay like this?” (Emil)

Due to Emil’s question, Renya lightly checks the state of the rope binding the masked person.

The masked person was bound tightly so that they couldn’t slip out, but it doesn’t seem like the knots were tied in a way that strangles their body, Renya judged.

“It’s okay. Please, just do it so that it’s not painful.” (Renya)

While warning Emil for caution’s sake, Renya calls the inn’s employee and asks for the bill.

“Sorry. A sudden job has cropped up. There’s still money left, right? I don’t need the change, please keep everything. And, we received favours from you as well. Please take this as a little thanks.” (Renya)

Renya said while slipping a gold coin into the hands of the female employee with a plain impression.

It’s far too much money as tip, Renya thinks, but in addition to the sudden check-out, it was money that carried the implication of hush money, as he himself didn’t want to be connected to the disastrous scene behind him. Behind him is Emil assuming a triumphant look as if saying “Caught ya”,

stepping with one foot on the body of the masked person who was transformed into a wrapped roll.

That's the disastrous scene Renya doesn't want to have any connection with, and seemingly perceiving that it will become troublesome if she touched onto that matter, the female employee doesn't even turn her glance at it.

"There are various special circumstances, okay? It will save us some trouble if you could handle these matters as a secret." (Renya)

"... There are no decent people coming to such a place..."

"I see. Nevertheless, well, it would be great if you can keep it in mind. Well then, we are in your debt." (Renya)

Once he asks her to give his best regards to the inn's landlord, Renya leaves the inn behind.

Easily shouldering the packaged masked person, Emil followed behind him.

"Will we go across the city like this?" (Emil)

"That's impossible, right? It's fine here since it's the slums, but we will stand out too much in the normal city. We will go outside once by crossing over the northern wall." (Renya)

"S-Someone explain a bit!"

Neither Renya nor Emil take any notice of the masked person's voice. They were apparently packed quite skillfully. Emil blocks the mouth of the masked person, who isn't even able to squirm, with one hand.

Even if they are called slums, it's not a good idea to kick up a fuss without knowing whose eyes are looking from where.

The two, who ran through the slums in such a state, easily jumped over the wall at the outer section of the city, just like at the time when they entered, and headed towards the magic ship along the wall.

Chapter 89 – It seems to be a replacement and the escape

Please read: The subjective in the first part of this chapter is intentional and has been kept just as it is in the raw. Read the entire chapter to understand the context.

What is called the audience hall in the royal castle has, for some reason, quite the length.

Most likely it took such a shape in order to make the distance from the king as large as possible, but it doesn't seem to have much of a meaning, it thought.

After descending from the magic ship, they were guided to the royal castle by the soldiers. They waited for the job of unloading the baggage from the magic ship to finish, and then had the maids take out the full dress set from within, that had been brought along for the audience. It changed into the dress in a room prepared by the Holy Kingdom's side for Shion's personal use.

The male soldiers were naturally on standby outside the room. Only Rona, who's the sole female guard, stayed right next to it while it was changing clothes.

"Shion... don't you have any intention to escape after this?" (Rona) Not only the changing of clothes, but all other preparations, such as attaching accessories were left to a maid. It looks at Rona with a surprised expression due to what she said.

Noticing the gazes directed at her, Rona, who was vigorously chewing her own lips, argues vehemently in order to press Shion for an answer without minding the voices in their surroundings starting to stir.

"There's no reason for you to be sacrificed, Shion, right? Who cares about him

being a hero, that sort of behaviour is inexcusable!” (Rona) “Rona... your voice is too loud. This is a topic that will cause various problems if overheard.”

As it answers while smiling bitterly, Rona sinks into silence with an expression filled with discontent.

It's probably something she can't stomach at all, I suppose, it smiles wryly. It ponders *I wonder what face Rona would make if she knew what was going to happen from now on.* It also feels slightly sorry towards Rona who seems to worry about it from the bottom of her heart, but seeing as it's unknown from where information might potentially leak, it's proper to keep the number of people, who know about it, as low as possible. Holding a detailed preparatory meeting is also bound to be impossible.

“Rona, don't worry. I will be all right.”

“But, Shion...” (Rona)

“It's really no problem. It's unnecessary for you to worry about anything. It will be fine for you to solely consider the matter of how you will return to Kukrika, Rona.”

“Huh? That is, of course with the magic ship...” (Rona)

“That's true I guess... Ah, in that case, let me proceed by myself from this point on. Rona, please prepare your return on the magic ship.”

“Shion?” (Rona)

“There's no problem at all. Won't I just go to the audience and humour the hero from now on, anyway? Doing that by myself will be plenty, right? Okay, Rona?”

While slightly approaching Rona with her worried expression, it loosens one of the corks of a certain preparation, which was given to it by Frau, inside its body and mixes it into its breath.

The preparation, which has no smell, doesn't possess anything but a very weak effect, but it thought that it would be sufficient for Rona who seems to be somewhat exhausted from being mentally driven into a corner.

For caution's sake, as it approached, it places its hands on Ronas shoulders, and further asserts, while facing her directly “It's no problem, there's nothing to

worry about, understand?”

“... No problem... there’s nothing to worry about. Yes, I got it, Shion...” (Rona)
Feeling her resistance growing weak from her voice, it discerns that the preparation is showing its effect without a doubt.

After all, it’s a situation where it ends up feeling very sorry rather than only a bit, but since it won’t meet Rona ever again after this, it entrusts all the explanations and apologies to Renya and its master.

“At any rate, because of that, please return to the ship together with the maids and the guards. You are not needed for what comes next.”

“Yes... understood, Shion.” (Rona)

“You are a good child. You guys as well, as soon as you finish your work, it’s fine to return to the ship together with Rona. Can you hurry it up? It’s possible that it will be too late after something happens.”

Once it says so with a tone that hints at something, they show their allegiance by quietly bowing their head without anyone voicing a protest as it seemed its breath’s effect had also reached the maids and soldiers on standby. Seeing that, it smiled while looking satisfied.

“Shion-sama, are your preparations going well?”

By the time a soldier of the Holy Kingdom came to call upon Shion, only Shion was left inside the room.

With her hair smoothly flowing down her back, she’s wearing a jet black mermaid line dress.

Her hair ornaments are made out of silver and there’s a similar silver necklace resting on her chest.

On both her wrists there are bracelets that are also silver. Her appearance, whilst standing still inside the room by herself, was certainly beautiful, but rather than a princess, she gave off hints of being a witch from somewhere.

“Aah, it’s time? I shall leave the guiding to you then.”

It said as it noticed the soldier’s arrival. While the soldier, who ended up speechless due to being apparently overawed, bowed in a panic.

Is this appearance that weird? It laughs at that thought pleasantly with a high-

pitched tone.

“Shion-sama... those, clothes are...”

“These? I wonder whether they suit me?” (Shion)

It asks with a voice containing a smile while grasping the dress’ hem.

“Black, that is to say... in such venue of celebration...”

“I don’t think it’s anything that will be seen as impolite though. Do you want me to change my clothes?” (Shion) Being told that, the soldier ponders.

A woman dressing herself will, in any case, take time.

Calling someone to come once again, taking off the dress and changing into a different one, arranging the accessories and hairstyle; just how long that would take wasn’t something he knew.

As result of that, the nobles and royals, who are waiting in the audience hall, will have to continue to wait for that time.

Even if Shion’s appearance is regarded as rude, for argument’s sake, that’s not the responsibility of a soldier.

Once he thought that far, the soldier wondered whether it wouldn’t be less trouble to take her along as is, rather than wasting any more time henceforth.

“No, I will gladly lead you.”

“Yeah, please take care of me.” (Shion)

Agreeing with a single nod, it follows the soldier in the lead.

The soldier felt suspicious about there being no maids and guards around Shion, who is walking behind him, but since they wouldn’t have any other choice but to wait outside if they were to go to the audience hall, he stops caring about it as it’s the same whether they are there or not.

Usually the soldier would have probably thought about it deeper and checked the surroundings after questioning Shion herself about it, but the sweet scent wafting in from somewhere stole the soldier’s ability to think.

In his head the odour behaves similarly to being intoxicated by alcohol, the soldier regards it as simply being Shion’s scent or perfume.

But actually, that smell drifted out from the gap between Shion’s slightly opened lips.

It was one of Frau’s special drugs.

“The time’ll be ripe soon, I guess?”

Meanwhile, inside the magic ship belonging to the Principality of Trident. Renya and Emil, who had secretly sneaked in, talked in whispers while squatting in a shadow of the quite wide ship’s interior.

“It doesn’t seem that it’s on board, but if we had been too quick, that other side would’ve gotten exposed, I guess.” (Renya) “We should’ve added a communication function, a blunder, that’s a blunder.” (Emil) The completely packaged masked person on the shoulder of Emil, who is laughing while scratching her head with one hand, has been carried around while in a limp state.

We might have overworked them a bit too much, Renya assesses. In order to infiltrate the ship swiftly and quietly so that they weren’t seen by anyone, Renya and Emil moved without restraint or taking situational peculiarities into consideration. If seen from Renya’s and Emil’s viewpoint, those weren’t any excessive movements, but from the viewpoint of the masked person, who was shaken up and down while being shouldered by Emil, it was unbearable. *Did she lose consciousness after being spun around so quickly?* She couldn’t even raise her voice anymore.

“We should have decided on a signal, don’t you think?” (Renya) “Even if we had, what are you expecting it to do while inside the audience hall? Isn’t that usually unreasonable?” (Emil) “I’m not suited for such plans...” (Renya)

“There’re only muscle heads in our party, to a staggering degree, aren’t there?” (Emil) Renya directs a sullen and angry expression at Emil who laughs with a cackling sound, but she doesn’t realize it, since they both have their faces shrouded by a cloth.

“You, aren’t you the one incharge of thinking?” (Renya)

“I’m a researcher, not a planner or a strategist.” (Emil) “Bah, you call yourself a researcher only when it’s convenient...” (Renya) “Ah, hey, just a moment, Renya-kun. Look over here.” (Emil) Glancing outside the window of the ship, Emil beckons Renya.

Renya, who looked outside where Emil was pointing at, while thinking *she’s*

going to say something worthless again anyway, caught sight of a group that had a blonde-haired woman in priestess garbs in the lead walking with a somewhat staggering stride from the direction of the city.

“That is... Rona, isn’t she?” (Renya)

“There’s no doubt with those massive breasts.” (Emil)

“Her breasts don’t matter here at all though... in that case, I wonder, are those the guys who left for the royal castle with it?” (Renya) “That’s probably right. That means it used the drug.” (Emil) Emil says while remembering that there was also a drug that had something like a hypnosis-inducing effect among the drugs they had prepared.

The “it” mentioned by both of them was a homunculus Emil had produced from Shion’s hair.

Inside its body there were several drugs, which were created by Frau, stored. Depending on the situation it could use them by mixing them into its breath. It’s Emil’s special poison doll.

It was something Renya had Emil make for the sake of making sure that Shion definitely doesn’t go to the hero, no matter how the dice may fall, but they haven’t told Shion that she’s being used as mold.

If they had told her, Shion would have been worried and caused difficulties by saying that she hates something like a doll that looks completely like her spewing venom.

Renya has only told Shion that a doll substitute is going to the royal castle. The poison doll has the order to throw an extremely powerful poison, that has been stored within it, at the hero when he comes into a range of less than one meter from the doll and to change into a monster afterwards.

Renya was slightly dissatisfied that he wouldn’t be able to see the moment when the hero gets poisoned, but that was something so Renyalike, only Renya would think of.

“Well then, should we get started Renya-kun?” (Emil)

“Okay, let’s make it flashy, I guess?” (Renya)

After fixing the carrying posture of the masked person, or in other words, Shion, who was being shouldered by Emil, Emil destroys a suitable, nearby door

by kicking it.

The door, which was kicked with all of her demon strength, belonged, fortunately for Renya, to a vacant room. On top of being split right into halves, it flew until the wall on the opposite side and caused a huge crushing sound to reverberate inside the ship.

Moreover, as that apparently triggered some kind of alarm, a loud warning sound begins to echo within all of the ship's interior.

"Ah, damn it. That's not the way out~." (Emil)

Renya curbs his eyebrows due to the awfully indifferent statement of Emil. Although he considered it pointless to expect quality acting from a demon, he feared that it would hinder the progress of their far too straightforward strategy if they were to be too violent.

"What is it!? What happened!?"

"It's from above! It seems something was destroyed!"

Voices of soldiers shouting at each other can be heard coming from somewhere.

Although it might have a considerable size, being on board the ship makes one feel confined nevertheless.

Even the voices of the soldiers end up echoing inside this confined space, which makes it quite difficult to grasp how far away they are.

"I think we have to run away soon?" (Emil)

"No, we have to get discovered by someone... otherwise we can't leave that behind." (Renya) Renya points at the object on top of Emil's shoulder.

"So we'll leave her behind after all?" (Emil)

"Well, of course. So far as it goes, there's a reason why she came here on this ship." (Renya) "I'm afraid of what I'll be told once we return to the city." (Emil) At the time when Renya returned a bitter smile at Emil, who smiles with a "tee-hee", the soldiers, whom they waited for, finally arrived where Renya and the other two were.

As expected, there's no way for them to swing around swords inside this narrow ship, huh? The weapons they have are short spears. While the armour worn by

the soldiers varied between two designs.

I dare say that one side of them are soldiers from the Principality of Trident, while the others are probably soldiers of the Holy Kingdom, Renya judges.

“You bastards! What are you doing over there!? What the heck is that thing on your shoulder!?”

“Answer! You suspicious assholes! Take off that cloth and show your faces!”

“They reacted faster than expected! Oy, leave that behind here!” (Renya)
Renya, while feigning a posture as if he’s going to release magic by facing a palm towards the soldiers, who are raising their voices demanding their identity while thrusting out their spears, orders Emil.

“However, kidnapping this guy is this time’s~.” (Emil)

Even this late in the game, Emil still talks in monotone.
While planning to scold her later, Renya shouted,

“... Whatever, leave it behind, you big fool!” (Renya)

Renya shouts at Emil, with the latter part being quite serious. Finally Emil gently lowers what was on her shoulder onto the ground.

“Run away!” (Renya)

“Where to~?” (Emil)

“Up. Hurry, you idiot!” (Renya)

“You damned thieves! Do you think that we will let you get away!?”

Renya releases wind blades, activated at the lowest mana output, at the soldiers who are approaching while thrusting their spears.
Of course, since they will suffer injuries if hit, the wind blades hit an empty wall due to the aim being completely off, they get repelled and vanish.
However, due to the sound of the wind blades gouging out the passage’s walls and the fact magic was fired, the soldiers stumble.
With that as an opportunity, Renya and Emil began their escape by aiming for the upper floor of the ship.

Chapter 90 – It seems to be the conclusion of the escape

The spear, as a weapon class, isn't usually seen as one that plays a prominent role.

There are probably a great variety of objecting opinions, while there will also exist people who regard the spear as the strongest weapon.

The evaluation that farmers could kill warriors if they are allowed to possess *sangen** spears also exists. A short spear that's used by an individual is an excellent weapon that meets all three major attack criteria, thrusting, slashing and bashing. *(T/N: Very long spears with blades at the tip, google them if you want pictures)*

It even appears in myths and there are also quite a few famous spears.

Notwithstanding, for some reason it doesn't play a leading role.

If one were to speak of an almost definite hero weapon, the sword will be the first to be mentioned.

The heroes' weapons are swords and most of the legendary weapons are swords as well.

As for imaginative strategies, one could even say that it's the spear that suffers crushing defeats thanks to the sword.

However, that's only hypothetically talking. If you confront reality, anyone can tell that a spear is quite a troublesome weapon.

That is to say, at least it has a large reach. And with only that characteristic, the spear can maintain a reasonable predominance in battle.

If one's unlucky, it's also possible that one will be done in just because of this single aspect.

People, who insist on a spear becoming powerless after its spearhead has been cut off, have seen too many videos and stories created by people who don't know the threat of a dying spear.

If there's something you can do, have a go at it, is what Renya wanted to say. However, there are also disadvantageous aspects. The biggest flaw is that the longer the spear is, the more time it takes to rotate it in one's hands. One can say that the trait of a spear is that it will become weak as soon as one circles around to its side.

“But then again, that's only if there's a flank to go around and cut into.”
(Renya)

Muttering so, Renya once again evades a spearhead that was thrust towards him. Dealing with spears in a narrow and straight passage results in being forced into an extremely difficult fight. Even when he knocks it away or repels it, the next spearhead comes lunging in right after.

The only saving grace is that there's no weapon that can cut while being pulled back, like a cross spear, in this place, Renya thinks.

If that was present here, I don't feel like I would be able to break them with my bare hands.

If one were to possess Renya's skills, lopping off only the spears' head wasn't something impossible, but if it turns into a scuffle in a passage that has little space and a low ceiling, wielding his katana isn't something he is capable of. To begin with, Renya had his katana stored in his inventory and he had no intention to take it out.

A weapon that's quite rare will only end up giving away information that allows the inference of the user's identity.

Renya doesn't mind that a bit, no matter how flashy it might be, but it was absolutely necessary to hide the fact that the one who was currently in this location was Renya the adventurer from Kukrika.

“I'm tired of this. It's getting annoying, is it no good to escape by breaking through the ceiling?” (Emil)

Emil grumbles with a fed up tone, while looking up at the ceiling. *For her who's a demon, fighting, while not get injured and not killing the opponents seems to feel more stressful than expected. Her voice is deeply tinged*

with fatigue.

“I can’t go on like this if there isn’t some kinda reward.” (Emil)

“I will accept negotiations, so you have to come up with something.” (Renya)

“Oh? I just tried mentioning it, but now I have a bit of motivation.” (Emil)

Was she pleased by Renya’s answer? Emil takes one step forward.

Several spearheads are thrust towards her small body.

Although their high number only lasted for an instant, it was to an extent of making even Renya feel flustered, but Emil, without trying to evade those, mowed them down with a flash of her slender arms.

By nature a spear-handle isn’t something that will easily break due to the blow of a single person.

If they were that fragile, they would most probably break when stabbing into the target.

But for Emil’s strikes, which have the power of a demon behind them, breaking a spear handle is as simple as breaking a twig. And so, all the spears going towards her end up snapping after being hit.

“Uooh!?”

“A spear with bare hands... is that guy a monster!?”

“We need spares! Quickly bring the spare spears!”

Due to the power of that blow, the soldiers instinctively end up falling back. Turning around, Emil starts to run while pushing Renya.

“Hey! Hurry it up and let’s get outta here!” (Emil)

“I know that even without you telling me!” (Renya)

The soldiers, who held replacements spears, are chasing the two from behind as they escape at full speed.

From the viewpoint of the soldiers, they likely intend to corner Renya and Emil who are escaping into higher and higher floors, but from Renya’s view point, whose goal is to go to the top, you could say that the situation is advancing favourably.

Repeating a few more battles, Renya and Emil run up the stairs, get through

several openings that seem to be hatches and finally slip out onto the rooftop of the magic ship's living quarters.

As a result of Emil displaying her power for a second time, the two forced back the pursuing soldiers. And when they came out onto the rooftop, they saw a part of the royal castle being blown off, followed by an explosion and a violet clay-doll-like giant slowly rising up from within the ruins.

“... What is that?” (Renya)



Renya mutters as he was taken aback by the giant that was slowly slipping out from within the hole, that was created when the building was blown away, while also raising a low groan.

“What, you ask... that’s the monster you requested, isn’t it?” (Emil)

“That’s obviously too big, isn’t it!?” (Renya)

In comparison to the royal castle itself, the giant had a height surpassing 10 meters.

Even the soldiers, who appeared on the rooftop after chasing Renya and Emil, began to fall into panic after following Renya’s gaze and seeing the violet giant.

If such a ridiculously large monster were to suddenly appear inside the Holy Kingdom, that’s located in the centre of the continent, and furthermore in the Holy City, which is its centre, and on top of that in the royal castle which could be called its heart, it would cause rampant panic, huh? Renya thinks as he watches the flustered soldiers shuffling about in confusion.

When such an incident occurs, you can’t blame the soldier’s low training level, I suppose, he judges.

“A monster in the royal castle!?”

“No way... Just from where the hell...?”

While the voices of the soldiers can be heard, little explosions and flame pillars burst out all over the body of the violet giant as it leans its body forward, while placing a hand on the wall of the collapsed royal castle.

It seems that the attacks of the soldiers and magicians, who were trapped inside the royal castle, have begun.

Because they are serving in the royal castle, the attacks should be carried out by people that possess quite the ability, but with their attacks only exploding on the surface of the giant’s body, the giant stands stock-still as if it weren’t feeling a thing.

“It’s tough, that...” (Renya)

“Well the basic abilities of such kind of golem are toughness, size and slowness, those three.” (Emil)

Given that he didn't want to produce extensive damage, Renya told Emil, when he made the request, that it would be great if she understood that the monster should have absolutely no offensive abilities. So to speak, it's simply an empty threat.

"As it has no offensive abilities, I put my effort into its defensive abilities. Its physical and magical defences are very sturdy." (Emil)

"Even though it was me who requested it, that thing is nothing but a hindrance..." (Renya)

"O-Oy! You bastards!"

Due to Renya and Emil staring at the still-standing violet giant with somewhat half hearted gazes, one of the soldiers, who had apparently recovered from the shock in one way or another, shouts while jabbing the spear in his hand. Renya and Emil noticed that the thrust-out spear and the hands grasping it were trembling slightly, but end up considering him as remarkable even if it's just for having recovered first under these circumstances.

"Is that your deed as well!?"

Being asked that, Renya and Emil look at each other for a moment. As Renya pondered *Well then, how do I answer that?* Emil readily yielded that part to Renya. For the time being he was apparently aware of his own non-existing talent as performer.

"Answer!"

"Fu... Fuahahahahahaha!"

Out of desperation, now that things have turned out like this, Renya raises a loud laughter in order to get through this with enthusiastic momentum. Turning around to the soldier who slightly retreated with a startled expression, Renya spread both his arms widely.

"Don't you understand what you are told? Foolish humans!" (Renya)

"Wh-!? B-Bastard..."

Seemingly out of shame, Renya is on the brink of using broken language, but

given the situation, the soldier apparently didn't notice.

"Although that's the human's way of doing things, something like this is good." (Emil)

Emil points out in a whisper while hiding behind Renya.

While thinking *They will probably think that I'm a ventriloquist puppet or something similar*, Renya continues,

"We are currently here to abduct the humans' princesses, present them to His Majesty the Demon King and to send the hero, on whom you bastards' hope depends, to his death! We failed in securing one princess, but look! You assholes' castle that tried to resist His Majesty the Demon King by sheltering the hero has collapsed at this point!" (Renya)

"Well~... Won't even Demon King-sama be troubled if human princesses are offered to him? The current demon king, was it a male or a female?" (Emil)

Emil's murmurs didn't reach Renya's ears, as it was erased by the voices of the stirring soldiers.

As expected, Renya, who blames his hearing, looks back over his shoulder.

"Does he exist after all, the demon king?" (Renya)

"Who knows? I do~n't know a~nything." (Emil)

Emil naturally averts her look by entrusting her back to Renya's.

If the situation had allowed for it, Renya would have turned around and interrogated her, but it doesn't look like the current circumstances will allow him to do so.

A conspicuously large flash is created around the chest area of the violet giant, that stood stock-still without doing anything while having placed its hands on the castle.

Once one strained their eyes a bit, one could see, although only vaguely, the figure of a person who held a shining sword and was cutting away at the violet giant while moving by flying throughout the sky.

"The attack just now whittled it down quite a bit. Is that the hero?" (Emil)

"I don't know as it's far away, but that's probably the case. That guy's an idiot, isn't he?" (Renya)

“Why?” (Emil)

“Why is he expressly attacking it with a sword while flying in the sky? In such situation you first cut off the feet, right?” (Renya)

It's common sense that will make one embarrassed, since it's an established tactic to fight an opponent that has a larger body than oneself by first crushing the parts your hands can reach.

The act of expressly assaulting with a sword, while freely jumping and flying without caring about what's below one's own feet is the epitome of folly, Renya judges.

“Well, in any event, it's a definite fact that hero-sama has been poisoned.”
(Emil)

When you start something against someone, it's indispensable to keep an ace up one's sleeve, as long as it's something possible, Renya thinks.

Always set up an insurance, is what it's about, but if one limits the talk to this time, scattering poison when the fake-Shion was less than one meter away from the hero, was the first step.

The second step was the continuous emission of the same poison from all over the body of the poison doll that would appear after that.

If a monster appears at the royal castle and if it's to a degree that it's obviously powerful, the hero himself has to move in order to repel it.

Anticipating that, Renya requested Emil to make sure that the giant itself can spread poison into its surroundings.

Of course, thanks to that, it will result in unrelated people becoming victims as well, but since it's not a poison that dictates life or death, I'd like them to resign themselves by considering it their own bad luck to have been dragged into it, Renya assesses.

Capricious

Crime

Frau's special poison 「Grave Sin of Infidelity」.

This poison that boasts of a intense power at level 9 only works towards men. The poisoned men will experience panting with relentless palpitation, violent stomach ache and headache, and will feel nauseated to the degree of getting dehydrated, if left untreated, from just touching a woman.

Moreover, it has the extra effect that if any body part comes into contact with a woman's bodily fluids, it will immediately get inflamed.

For all that, it's hard to handle since it doesn't have any effect at all on the male functions.

To explain it simply; it's a drug that makes one contract an extreme woman allergy.

It's a heartless story since the poisoned will have their bodies transformed in such a way that they can't satiate those kinds of desires while still retaining said desire.

Furthermore, as Frau explained before, there's almost no cure for it.

At the time when he heard about it, Renya unintentionally ended up distancing himself from Frau due to the dreadfulness of the details.

His expression seems to have become stiff from fear to a degree that even surprised Frau. It was to the extent that she had to explain several times that she would take responsibility, in case Renya got poisoned by mistake, and administer an antidote.

"Its original administration method was for the woman to drink it first and then get the man poisoned through physical contact. In the case of this method, it's a superb application with only the woman, who poisoned the man, being excluded from the poison's effects." (Emil)

In short, it's a poison that won't affect women.

"You, never ever use it, okay?"

"Huh? Renya-kun, does that mean that you have the distinct intention to have a relationship with several women?" (Emil)

"I haven't said that..." (Renya)

Even while wondering whether it's inevitable to have it interpreted in such a manner, Renya refuses to do so, for the time being.

Even during that time, the hero flies around the giant and drives in seemingly strong attacks with the holy sword.

Each time, a violet liquid that resembles blood is sprayed and scattered from the open cut wounds, staining the hero's body.

This poison shows its effect by being absorbed through mucous membranes, but with its excelling volatility, its virulence isn't any different from created vapour.

However, when it comes in contact with air, it deteriorates through oxidation within several minutes and it becomes harmless.

“Ha! Did you see, thieves! The power of that hero-dono! The giant isn’t even able to use any techniques!”

He’s very likely a soldier affiliated to the Holy Kingdom.

Seemingly having gained vigour due to the appearance of the hero who is one-sidedly attacking the giant, he declares that loudly while holding up his spear. Likewise, the soldiers in the surroundings raise their voices and praise the power of the hero by hoisting up their spears, but from Renya and Emil’s point of view, who are aware of the circumstances, they don’t hold any impressions above “Oh, is that so?”

“Hey, we have to withdraw with something that leaves a large impression, or do you intend to stay here forever?” (Emil)

Emil says while poking Renya’s back. Renya strains his brain thinking, while shaking his head, as he doesn’t have any kind of knowledge on hand that would be good to say in this situation.

“Ah, umm... That damned hero! What a lucky fellow! But next time it won’t go like this! Immerse yourself in your momentary peace while fearing the second and third plans’ shadows!” (Renya)

“You know what, isn’t it fine to just call yourself the demon king already?” (Emil)

Emil delivers the final blow to Renya, who’s filled with the feeling of wanting to embrace his knees out of embarrassment. For some reason only that whisper of Emil’s properly reaches the ears of the soldiers.

“You bastard! You’re the demon king!?”

“As if that’s true! Bring them here if a demon king, who nonchalantly comes to such a place, exists! I will scold them! Even if I was the demon king, do you think I would withdraw with such shabby military results!?” (Renya)

“Do you plan to escape!? Son of a bitch!”

“Ah...”

I ended up doing it, is the expression Renya shows.

Emil, who was waiting behind him, gently embraced Renya’s waist with her arms and hugs him from behind.

“Somehow it ended up becoming a sloppy story, but that’s how it is. Wouldn’t it be best for you guys to also go to hero-sama’s location? Although he’s in that kind of battle, it’s not like it has been safely concluded, has it?” (Emil)

“W-What!?”

“Well then, bye bye.” (Emil)

Emil’s words are similar to a soft whisper.

Due to her overly quiet whispering, the soldiers’ reaction was delayed for an instant.

In that momentary opportunity, two wings with black membranes appear from Emil’s back.

Emil kicked the ground with a single *tap* and the bodies of both of them floated up gently.

“Shit! They intend to escape by flight!”

“Someone bring the bows!”

The soldiers’ yells are audible, but it’s already too late.

When Emil flaps her black wings in one large stroke, she raises to a height where the soldiers’ hands can’t reach her anymore.

It’s an altitude where even the soldiers’ voices can’t be heard.

“Emil, say, do demons grow these on their backs?” (Renya)

“Those are dummies! Aren’t these always used as an amplification of wind magic?” (Emil)

“It appears you don’t have any leeway, I suppose? Though, having various things press against my back does feel good.” (Renya)

“Fool~! Since you can fly by yourself, how about doing so already? These things on my back are a nuisance and it’s also difficult to fly while carrying you! I might drop you if you don’t get off immediately!” (Emil)

“Mmh~... a bit longer.” (Renya)

“Can’t you say those things later!?” (Emil)

Chapter 91 – It seems to be the post-treatment

“Might I ask you to confirm and explain the circumstances? Of course you have no right to veto.”

The girl, who is sitting on the other side of the table, broached the topic as soon as she opened her mouth.

While tasting the black tea that had been poured by Frau, Renya observes the girl, who keeps on staring his way while sitting deeply in the sofa.

Her hair is the color of wet crow feathers. It falls straight-down her back without being braided. Her forelocks are arranged in straight lines above her eyebrows.

Below the somewhat large eyebrows that seem to carry a strong will, are eyes with a tendency to droop that give one a fresh impression.

Her slender, well-ordered features boost the sharp atmosphere cladding her body.

Though her attire seems to be decently tailored and cost quite a bit of money according to Frau, it's something like a male jouge with a calm colour scheme.

Renya wondered whether she was a man when he first saw her, but he definitely understood that she was a woman after seeing the swelling, albeit moderate, in the chest area.

It's great that I noticed before asking, Renya thoroughly believes.

Once he sends a fleeting glance to the girl's side, he can see that, for some reason, Shion and Rona are sitting on the ground in seiza.



Even though it's not like they've done anything bad, Renya assessed, but the girl forced them both into seiza and order them to stay like that, while, for some reason, neither of the two girls defied her.

By the way, seiza and dogeza seems to have spread among the human race due to a Lost who got stranded in this world in the past. Nowadays it's something everyone knows about, Croire whispered into Renya's ear.

It doesn't seem to have been accepted by the elves, although they seem to be aware of them.

While Croire, who is sitting slightly to Renya's left, holds a teacup containing black tea with both hands, trying to cool it down by blowing on it, Emil, who's on his right, is slovenly reclined in the sofa with a broad grin as she watches the current state of affairs.

Frau doesn't say anything as she waits behind Renya as if it was her usual place *The room's filled with women*, Renya thinks, while feeling restless.

Reflexively, Renya feels the need to summon Az next to him in order to have an oasis for his heart, but since he's completely unrelated to this time's incident, there is no way Renya will drag him into the topic by calling him over.

I guess it's no good if I don't say anything, Renya opened his mouth,

"I don't know at all what you are talking about." (Renya)

"That's not the answer I'm looking for."

Being immediately refuted in such a decisive manner, Renya reveals an awkward expression.

It seems that she won't even allow us to play dumb.

"There's no meaning in me visiting purposelessly. Please realize the meaning of Mayria Femme Fatale being present in this place." (Mayria)

"Even if you tell me that..." (Renya)

While showing a troubled expression on his face, Renya shifts his gaze to Shion.

Shion, who is frantically enduring the pain assaulting her feet due to the unfamiliar seiza posture, notices Renya's gaze focusing on her and secretly shakes her head.

“I have heard the story from my older sister in advance.” (Mayria)

The girl says in a flat tone, seemingly having noticed the target of Renya’s attention.

Though he doesn’t know what Shion spit out, Renya thinks *with this the option of saying something thoughtless has vanished* with a depressed feeling.

Renya understands that the girl in front of him, who introduces herself with the name Mayria Femme Fatale, is a person related to Shion. Or rather, she was the very capable younger sister Shion had mentioned before.

After having caused an uproar in the Holy City, Renya and Emil returned to the city of Kukrika, by noisily roaring around in the car they had created for the trip. While, slightly after them, Shion and Rona also managed to return on the magic ship.

Since he had asked Frau to make sure that it’s not leaked to the surroundings that Renya and the others had vacated the city of Kukrika, Renya and Emil got stuck with secretly entering the city. But, if one possesses the abilities of those two, it doesn’t pose much of a challenge.

Given that Shion and Rona left the city under great publicity, they were also welcomed flashily when they returned, but as they were entering the city, they were surrounded by soldiers and taken away .

It likely won’t result in something that dangerous, since they are within their own home country, Renya estimated the severity, *but it appears that this imouto-dono was the culprit that took Shion and Rona captive.*

“I don’t know what you’ve heard from those two, but I don’t know anything.” (Renya)

“So you intend to feign ignorance to the bitter end?” (Mayria)

The fleeting glare she sent towards Renya was awfully severe.

Going by her body build and the fact that she’s Shion’s younger sister, one can consider her to be around 15 years old, but her eyes don’t look like those of a girl her age and the insight one can see within them isn’t something one can acquire at her age either.

Renya somehow grasps that she has apparently zeroed in on him and considers him a nuisance.

Since that’s troublesome, he pondered whether he should send her back after

drugging her, but Frau didn't agree to this.

"She's a proper visitor nano. As maid who looks after this house, I can't do something rude like that no." (Frau)

Frau recognized Mayria, who contacted them in advance, passed through the main gate and even prepared presents, as an extremely unusual guest. She insisted that she couldn't approve of harming her or drugging her without hesitation even if, for example, the discussion she came for was something undesired by Renya.

As it was an extremely sound argument, Renya had nothing he could retort with.

Renya, who thought it seemed appropriate of Shion's younger sister at the time of the advance contact, ended up approving her visit without thinking too deeply about it, since he was sure that she had come in order to meet her elder sister who had just returned home safely.

Even if he thinks this late in the game *it would have been great if I refused her request*, it's already too late.

"Even if I'm told that, I can't tell you what I don't know." (Renya)

"You are a stubborn gentleman. I had expected this, but... then allow me to speak to you as I please." (Mayria)

She takes out a little memo pad from her jacket's pocket, opens a page and begins to talk while glaring at Renya.

"First off, the mastermind of this time's incident is under suspicion of having broken through the national border." (Mayria)

"A villain, I guess." (Renya)

Mayria doesn't avert her eyes from Renya who gives a short reply.
Isn't it meaningless for her to open her memo pad if she keeps on staring this way? Renya ends up wondering, but without realizing Renya's thoughts, Mayria continues onwards.

"It has also been added that they have intruded into the Holy City." (Mayria)

"They did quite good, to not have been noticed by the guarding soldiers or someone similar."

(Renya)

“It appears it’s due to the gatekeeping soldiers retreating in order to protect themselves

... However, its inconsequential, as it’s a matter concerning a foreign country.”

(Mayria)

While easily belittling the conduct of the soldiers, who probably don’t know Renya’s face, with an “inconsequential,” Mayria continues talking,

“They are under the suspicion of having poisoned the hero Yuuki Yatsufusa, ten-odd nobles and the Holy Kingdom’s royalty.” (Mayria)

“That’s a drama. Was it a massacre?” (Renya)

There’s no disturbance in Renya’s inquisitive tone.

Although it was only slightly, the severity of Mayria’s gaze escalated.

It seemed that she wanted to say “In spite of already being aware of the fact”, but Renya persists in feigning ignorance.

“No, it appears that it wasn’t lethal, but... it seems that since then the infected gentlemen have lost the ability to approach women.” (Mayria)

“That’s a strange poison. Though, if it’s indeed so, it will be a disaster for the Royal Family as they will be unable to leave behind an heir, right?” (Renya)

Renya speaks as if it’s completely someone else’s problem.

“For royalty it’s a duty to create an heir, thus they’ll probably be forced to make one, even if they have to be tied to the bed. However, even if they don’t go this far, back-ups have been most likely prepared here and there.” (Mayria)

The words of the replying Mayria are also with a tone that regards the problem as someone else’s.

Being told that, Renya recalls the face of the elven country’s emperor.

Even if that person has too much sex, if it’s royalty of a human country, it’s not strange for it to be done in the same way anywhere but on a smaller scale.

If they stop, it’s quite possible for the country to perish.

It was only natural to prepare plenty of spares while taking also taking precautions so that they didn’t get their priorities backwards and overdo it, which could possibly lead to the country being split apart.

“According to our country’s priesthood, there are traces that a poison was used in order to deceive the minds of the escorting soldiers as well as the maids and Rona Chevalier who were assigned as my elder sister’s escort.” (Mayria)

Renya turned a fleeting glance at Rona who’s sitting in seiza.

Rona immediately shakes her head softly.

It seems she wants to tell him to not mind it, however, various parts are bouncing at the same time, and Renya, who didn’t want other people noticing that he was getting slightly flustered, quickly returns his gaze towards Mayria.

“Moreover, the destruction of the royal castle, intrusion into the magic ship belonging to our country, committing every type of evil and misconduct towards Shion Femme Fatale...” (Mayria)

“Misconduct!?” (Shion)

Shion raised her voice in surprise.

Shion protested against Mayria who reacted to those words and looked in her direction.

“What’s that about misconduct? There hasn’t be any such conduct!” (Shion)

“I shall correct myself. On top of being wrapped in a bamboo mat, Shion-ane-sama was kidnapped.” (Mayria)

“Guuh...” (Shion)

Yielding to Mayria’s cold stare, Shion sinks into silence.

“Anyway, if we list just the main charges, it’s an array of heinous crimes such as violating the national border, intruding into public facilities and a city, usage of poison, destruction of property, assault and abduction. It’s to the extent of being strange that murder isn’t included in that.” (Mayria)

“What was the criminal’s objective?” (Renya)

“The Holy Kingdom’s side seems to be almost certain that the whole situation was probably orchestrated by the demons or someone in cahoots with them.” (Mayria)

After closing her memo pad with a bang and returning it to her jacket’s pocket, Mayria leaned her body over the table that’s between her and Renya.

“However I do have a clue about a person who can pull off this much and even further has a motive to do so, you know?” (Mayria)

“That’s a big achievement. I suppose the intelligence gathering ability of the Principality of Trident is extremely high.” (Renya)

“Though he’s right in front of my eyes.” (Mayria)

“I don’t have any memory of having done something like that. I firmly deny any unspoken suspicions.” (Renya)

Renya undauntedly stares back at the glaring Mayria. The offence and defence between their glares continued for a little while, however, before long Mayria’s side gave in and averted her look.

“Is that so? It seems I made a mistake. Please excuse my impoliteness. You have my apology.” (Mayria)

On top of pulling back easily, Mayria returns her leaned-forward body into the sofa and bows her head.

Since it looked like it had been too simple, everybody except Mayria had a surprised expression.

Seemingly noticing their looks, Mayria shrugged her shoulders and started to talk indifferently.

“The truth doesn’t matter. The criminal is someone, what a surprise! The violation of the national border isn’t something that unusual. Even the intrusion into the magic ship; it’s not like it’s treated as secrecy.” (Mayria)

There’s no way for all countries to control their national borders that covered an enormous area.

Of course, if one passes through at a place other than the check point, it’s accompanied by a befitting danger, but since there’s nothing more than a rough net stretched out, there are several bypaths, Mayria says.

It’s an act that will turn into a crime if discovered. But if it’s not discovered, it’s no crime either. If they don’t have at least this much leeway in their thinking, they won’t have enough manpower no matter how many they gather and they’ll have to eventually surrender to the circumstances.

Even the trespassing of the magic ship; it’s a crime if caught red-handed, but it doesn’t seem to be a wrongdoing that warrants them chasing after someone

who got away.

“How about Shion’s abduction?” (Renya)

Renya asks while wondering whether that’s really all right.

He did try to kidnap the princess of a country, even if it was a sham.

Considering it normally, the honour of the nation would require them to search for the criminal, even if it’s a chase to the end of the world. It’s possible to consider it as redemption for one’s crime, but Mayria’s reply was something Renya had not expected.

“That part is even more unimportant.” (Mayria)

“May!?” (Shion)

“She has been given the exaggerated title of first princess, but in reality she’s a common citizen. Even if we set up another person that resembles her as the princess, it won’t have any influence on my people.” (Mayria)

“I know. I understand that, but... towards your blood-related elder sister, that’s too much...” (Shion)

Renya thought that it was quite the ruthless treatment, but even the person herself understands the kind of treatment she’s receiving.

It appears that she understands, but being told that directly to her face, it seems to be something heartrending.

Looking at Shion, who hangs her head crestfallen with an exceedingly miserable expression on her face, Mayria whispers

“That’s a joke though.” (Mayria)

“Severe... that’s severe, May...” (Shion)

“That’s nothing compared to the shock I received when I was told to become the next Archduchess after you abnegated your position as the first princess.” (Mayria)

“It’s wonderful that you two are on good terms, but... what kind of business do you have with us then?” (Renya)

Renya interrupts after seeing that Shion had received mental damage that could not be recovered from if left alone

Mayria has an expression hinting at the fact that there was still something she wanted to say, but after clearing her throat once with a cough, she once again faces Renya and addresses him with a somewhat respectful tone.

“Please make sure to keep the story I’m about to tell you bound to this place.” (Mayria)

Due to Mayria’s suddenly serious expression, Renya agreed with a nod after somehow losing the mental battle.

Chapter 92 – It seems to be a secret talk

I wonder just how many times did I ask myself 'How did it turn out like this?' after coming to this world, Renya thought as he digested the unpleasant memories.

He's on the parade ground of the military district of the city of Kukrika. Currently a hundred soldiers with their bodies covered in training gear are standing in front of Renya, who is standing still in a somewhat bored manner, while staring at him as if they are looking at someone shady.

Renya, who was flooded by a hundred gazes that are filled with doubts, deliberated *well then, what should I tell them* with an extremely uncomfortable expression. But before long, he opened his mouth as if somehow giving up on it.

"Yo... I'm Renya Kunugi, an adventurer. From today on it has been decided that I will be in charge of you gentlemen's training due to Her Highness the official Princess Mayria's request. ... For the time being, best regards." (Renya)

While being exposed to many stares asking "Who's that guy?", Renya thinks *really, how did it come to this* as he recalls the events that led to his current situation.

The situation dates back to the time when Mayria visited Renya's mansion. Being reminded that disclosure is prohibited, Mayria smiled bitterly while seeing everyone's faces present at the location, except Emil, becoming stiff, albeit only a bit.

"That doesn't mean I will be talking about confidential matters. It's to the degree of a secret talk that can't be propagated publicly." (Mayria)

"Although, given what you've said, not wanting to listen to it is completely valid in this situation... well, fine. So?" (Renya)

"First, I think I'd like to express my gratitude to the mastermind-sama of this time's case." (Mayria)

Mayria straightened herself properly by aligning her knees while sitting on the sofa and bowed her head very deeply afterwards.

It was obviously a bow towards Renya, but Renya secretly diverts his eyes away from Mayria.

“In this place, such fellow...” (Renya)

“Yes, it’s because I understand that they aren’t here.” (Mayria)

Lifting her head, Mayria clearly says that and reveals a smile.

Renya had started to have a grim image of her, but upon seeing her smile, he ends up thinking for the first time that she has a sweetness befitting her age. As his thoughts had apparently shown on his face, Shion and Rona wore somewhat complicated expressions. Emil’s grinning deepens to the degree of laughter. Frau didn’t even move in the slightest while casting her eyes down and Croire softly nudged her elbow into Renya’s flank.

“As such, I shall tell you without keeping secrets. This time’s case, no matter how much the other party is the hero, the human race’s hope, it was far too terrible of a situation. Even so, if it’s for the sake of protecting this country’s people from the threat of the demons, there was no other method but to obey.” (Mayria)

“Well, I guess that’s how it is.” (Renya)

If he regards the pros and cons of the situation after separating the problems on the emotional level, even Renya was able to understand; as long as it’s just the logical arguments.

Though, if he were asked whether he would obey in that situation, he would probably answer that he will crush the hero with all his might.

A statesman is someone that has no room for a choice if they can protect the whole country with a single sacrifice.

Speaking of a pipedream such as protecting everything without any victims only applies to protagonists inside stories or bottomless idiots.

“If there was a situation telling me to go, I would give up and abide to it. I’m the next Archduchess, thus there are countless husband candidates even if I was disgraced by the hero. For argument’s sake, it would be a good bargain, if I was able to entice the hero. However, sending elder sister, who stepped back

from the inheritance line, is something me and mother found difficult to accept... even the talk of completely getting destroyed alongside the Holy Kingdom..." (Mayria)

Perceiving a change in the eyes of the talking Mayria, which had a somewhat dangerous glint, Renya interrupted in a hurry.

"Let's stay calm, okay...?" (Renya)

"The Principality of Trident is ranked second in power on the human continent. We have experience in fighting against monsters since we do so at all times. We are also a military country that functions as breakwater on the human continent. We definitely won't lose if we go against the Holy Kingdom in a one-vs-one fight." (Mayria)

"That's not going to happen, right?" (Renya)

"Unfortunately. Since there's also the influence of the temple regardless of the country, I dare say it would turn into the Principality of Trident going against an alliance of countries. However, since there's the hero, winning will likely become impossible." (Mayria)

Mayria readily affirms Renya's remark.

Renya thinks that it's only natural, but the members, excluding Renya and Mayria, end up wondering whether it won't somehow turn into quite a nice competition if Renya is thrown into the mix.

The reality that it's a way of thinking that's not necessarily off the point is frightening, but there's no one present who can accurately grasp this fact.

"Even so... no matter how much mother and I tried to stop her, this elder sister insisted on going by herself at any cost... I felt anxious about my meatheaded elder sister going there in high spirits while being certainly attracted by the word hero, but I was unable to change the will of my obstinate elder sister..." (Mayria)

"So that's how it turned into this kind of situation." (Renya)

Renya felt like a quite harsh evaluation came out from Mayria's mouth, but he ignored it without giving it any deeper thought.

If Renya lets it pass, the other members won't touch on that matter either. Only

Shion, who's the person concerned, hangs her head heartbroken as Mayria, who is the one who used those harsh words, keeps a composed expression. After looking at the state of Shion for just a tiny bit, Mayria says,

"She's a really stupid elder sister. Something like going as a substitute for me. She probably understood that nobody would take her once she became deflowered." (Mayria)

"Muu..." (Shion)

Mayria softly and quietly sighs at the groaning Shion.

"However, although she's that much of a fool and dim-witted, she's still my elder sister. Only that point is indisputable... she's my precious elder sister." (Mayria)

Due to that seemingly unintentional murmur, Shion lifts her head with an expression filled with surprise.

As she plentifully realizes that her elder sister is likely looking at her, Mayria ignores her as much as possible and looks at Renya.

Renya perceived that her cheeks became red, though only slightly, but stays silent thinking that he should pretend to not have noticed it.

"Therefore, I can't tell you just how grateful I am for the matter this time. ... However, what's painful is that I can't make it public because of my position in this. It means that I can't reward that person." (Mayria)

"Well, that's true, I suppose." (Renya)

As a person possessing the position of being responsible for the whole principality, she would set a bad example for the citizens if she publicly thanked a criminal.

Besides, the offender is unknown at present and there are rumours that it's very likely the deed of demons. If the Principality of Trident rewarded a single adventurer in some way and if that story spread, people that can possibly connect the dots would likely appear.

If that happened, there would have been absolutely no meaning in committing that crime while determinedly hiding his face.

"On top of that, though I feel sorry for something like this... I believe it can't

be helped even if I'm called shameless." (Mayria)

"Eh?"

"As a matter of fact, I visited you, as there's something I'd like to request from you, Renya-sama." (Mayria)

Right after giving her thanks, she says this? Renya thinks on the other hand. Although it was vaguely, Renya considered that it might turn into such a situation.

Breathing out deeply once, Renya asks,

"Did the Holy Kingdom's side say something?" (Renya)

"You could say that and also that it's not so." (Mayria)

Mayria's answer wasn't clear at all.

As Renya slowly tilts his head in confusion, Mayria continues with an explanation,

"There were signs that they would come to press for an answer regarding the case this time, but as their side doesn't seem to have a hold of any kind of proof either, they didn't meddle too much. However, the Holy Kingdom notified all nations that they will refrain from sending the hero over in case something happened for the meantime." (Mayria)

"... Ah..." (Renya)

In his mind Renya ends up thinking *Damn it*.

Renya had spun his plan under the condition that it will be fine as long as the hero doesn't die, as he will be treated as a decisive anti-demon king weapon. However, without the existence of the demon king actually having been confirmed at present, the only existing truth is that the activity of the demons and monsters has become more lively.

Even the Holy Kingdom will probably send the hero forcibly if the existence of the demon king gets confirmed. But as the current situation has yet to proceed up to this point, all nations, with the Principality of Trident in the lead, will be pressed to deal with the monsters that have become more active. Originally, the hero should go around the nations to help with monsters that have a level that's unmanageable for the respective countries, and if such

monsters aren't present, to help with parts where manpower is lacking. But before doing that, the hero has ended up indulging in sensual pleasures. Moreover, that hero ended up being plunged into a state that's almost impossible to recover from in regards to "those pleasures" by Renya. As a result, the hero has apparently become unable to carry out something similar to a journey of helping people by touring the nations.

"It seems there are various reasons. It appears that he can't take along any female members even if he goes on a journey. Even if he was forced to endure a male-only party, it looks like the hero became sulky that he wouldn't be able to experience anything nice even if he helped anyone..." (Mayria)

"I guess he's unsalvageable trash..." (Renya)

I wonder whether it would have been better if I had properly gotten rid of him in order to avoid future troubles, Renya ponders.

Mayria shakes her head while casting her eyes down with the impression that there's no means to fix his character.

"I feel like wanting to thank god for such kind of people not existing in our nation. It seems that he won't move even if he's ordered to do so, with the reason that he was allowed to do as he likes until now. Even if he somehow gets encouraged into doing so, the rotten hero... no, that's not it, the hero-wannabe that's also rotten isn't a match for an average soldier at all." (Mayria)

"Abandon that garbage somewhere." (Renya)

Although Renya made him completely incapable of nightly pleasures, he didn't meddle with his combat ability at all since it would be bad if he got killed, as he still serves the purpose of being a decisive weapon against the demon king.

No matter how much trash the hero is, it'll at least finish fighting the demon king and cleaning up the monsters as a favour for the benefits it enjoyed until now, Renya judged, but it seems that the trashiness of the hero went far beyond Renya's expectations.

It's often said that there's no end if you look above, but on the other hand there's also no bottom if you look below.

"I think so as well, but it looks like the authorities of the Holy Kingdom have a

slightly varying opinion.” (Mayria)

Mayria behaves as if she’s enduring a headache while curbing her eyebrows.

“If not only the Holy Kingdom... but also the Holy City was to be exposed to an attack by demons, the hero will be compelled to fight, whether he likes it or not, I suppose. That’s why they’re keeping him in reserve, to act as a defensive measure.” (Mayria)

It looks like they are thinking that even that trash will at least defend the city where it lives, if its own home faces destruction after being exposed to attacks. I see, there’s that way of using him, too, eh? Renya assesses, *but the other party is that hero after all.*

Isn’t the possibility of him running away quite high? Renya wonders.

“Even if we don’t think about the motives of the Holy Kingdom and the hero now, we ended up losing the grace of the hero. There’s almost no mistake about that. In other words, we have to consider the protection of our own principality with the military forces we have available right now.” (Mayria)

“In other words... you are telling me to participate in that protection as soldier?” (Renya)

Renya wondered whether she came here to scout him for the Principality’s army, but Mayria clearly denied Renya’s question by shaking her head. *Then what the hell do you want me to do?* As Renya feels suspicious, Mayria said,

“Having high expectations of your skills, Renya-sama, I’d like to request you to train our Principality’s soldiers.” (Mayria)

“”””” ... Ha?”””””

Everyone’s exclamation, with the exception of Frau, is accidentally in harmony due to Mayria’s unbelievable words.

As if trying to press for an answer from Renya and the others, who were taken aback, Mayria argues passionately,

“I have heard about your true strength from various sources, Renya-sama. Currently the Trident Principality desperately wants to assemble many strong soldiers. Can’t you lend us your power for that sake?” (Mayria)

In the end Renya decided to accept Mayria's request after a little bit of respite.

One of the reasons for that is that he felt responsible for making the hero become useless, although that's something he can't reveal openly.

Aside from that, there's also the point of the sum of the request fee presented by Mayria being very generous.

The things necessary for the training will be completely provided by the principality as long as he tells them what he needs.

The request fee was, for starters, 5 platinum coins for a period limited to one month, where he would be in charge of training 100 soldiers of the army under the direct control of the Archduchess.

That would equal to around 50.000.000 yen in his previous world.

Renya isn't too obsessive about money, but as one would expect, he felt dizzy due to the sum of money that was offered. Shion and Rona couldn't close their open mouths, Emil laughed loudly and Croire showed a bitter expression for some reason.

When Renya later tried to ask Croire about the meaning of her expression, he learned that she apparently doesn't like the human's armies possessing too much power as an elven imperial princess.

"I can't announce it publicly, but there will also be a reward included."
(Mayria)

Mayria added in a whisper.

Even if that's included, the large request fee is already far away from common sense.

Renya blurted out the words that popped up in his mind reflexively.

"No way! Do you intend to add Shion's chastity to such an amount of money!?" (Renya)

Shion falls over from her seiza posture.

Without looking Shion's way, Mayria waved her hand in front of her face.

"Definitely not. That's around one gold coin worth, I think?" (Mayria)

"May!? No matter how you look at it, isn't that extremely rude towards me!?"
(Shion)

Shion protested after getting up quickly, however Mayria coldly looks down on Shion.

“Even though I will gladly give your partner several dozens of silver coins to a few gold coins as payment, after the trouble of being successfully ensnared by onee-sama’s female wiles, as long as they are able to keep you in check while keeping you company. Please consider it my benevolence that I attach a value of one gold coin to you yourself, Shion-ane-sama.” (Mayria)

“May!? Where did you learn to talk like that!?” (Shion)

“I’m already 15 years old. I won’t stay a child forever.” (Mayria)

“15 is still a child, I think... as it’s fine already, please take it outside, you two.” (Renya)

Shion tries to cling to the knee of Mayria, who answered arrogantly while sitting on the sofa.

While investing great effort into understanding it in a positive way by thinking *I guess it’s proof that they are close*, Renya said that with a terribly worn-out voice.

After that kind of exchange, the story returns to its beginning.

Renya looked up to the sky while wondering *just how did it end up like this?*

Chapter 93 – It seems to be the start of training

“Ah... I believe you have various negative thoughts such as discontent, complaints and this whole thing being absurd, but as this is an order from above, give it up. I'd like you to follow my instructions for the coming month.”
(Renya)

Renya turned around to the soldiers lining up on the parade ground while trying to stay as expressionless as possible, since it couldn't be helped even if he cursed the heavens, but excluding the soldiers, he saw an element that brought him a headache.

Clad in the same equipment as the other soldiers, for some reason, Shion was standing in the front row with with her eyes sparkling.

Due to her being the only woman among the male soldiers, she stands out abnormally, but only she herself hasn't realized that.

At the time when Renya made the contract to train the Principality's soldiers upon Mayria's request, Shion suddenly proposed to take part in the training too.

Her surroundings and especially Mayria wanted to stop her with all their might, but Shion refused it stubbornly.

“The only one among Renya's party that lacks battle strength is me. I would hate it to be left out as a combat asset forever. Even I want to be able to fight decently.” (Shion)

With Shion insisting on that, the others somewhat accepted her point and stopped holding her back.

However, from Renya's point of view, Shion doesn't appear to be that weak. In reality, compared to when Az and Rona fell into a state of near-death from one hit during the battle with Emil, Shion got through it with nothing more than

injuries at the level of a beating.

Putting Az who is a magician aside, it was an attack that plunged even Rona, a former knight, into such precarious situation.

That doesn't mean that Shion possesses an extraordinarily sturdy body.

Once I think about it, it's unclear whether Shion was conscious or unconscious at that time, but wasn't she able to defend one blow from Emil? Renya ponders.

As a belief of Renya's, it's impossible for there to be coincidences in a battle.

If you can make even your opponent think it was a coincidence, then your foundations in a skill are strong enough for you to be able to reliably and consciously execute it in battle, Renya believes.

In other words it means that in Renya's eyes Shion possesses the ability to defend against the attack of a demon as long as she properly prepares her equipment.

The person herself isn't aware of that. She also doesn't possess equipment that corresponds to her abilities.

Since it's a good opportunity, I guess I will try to train her plentifully while also confirming her determination, Renya plans.

"Instructor-dono? Is it fine for me ask a little question?"

A single soldier raised his hand in front of Renya who was silent, since he was brooding over those things.

Judging roughly by his appearance, it's a young man with quite the forged body build.

He has crew-cut blonde hair and blue eyes.

From the fact that there are several scars visible on his face and arms, one can expect him to be a veteran soldier.

"What is it? Umm..." (Renya)

"It's Keith. I'm the leader of the soldiers. Attach -sama to my name at the time you call out to me, Instructor-dono." (Keith)

Huh? Renya tilted his head to the side.

I feel like I heard something strange there, but I guess it's just my imagination.

Without minding Renya's innermost thoughts, the soldier that introduced himself as Keith takes a step forward from among the soldiers and says to Renya with a smile pasted on his face,

“It seems that you are an adventurer, Instructor-dono. But, around what rank are you?” (Keith)

“It was F, I think? It’s the lowest rank.” (Renya)

A laughter erupts from among the soldiers due to Renya’s immediate reply. Renya tilted his head to the side once more.

From Renya’s point of view something like rank or such didn’t matter at all since him registering at the adventurer’s guild was an act for the sake of obtaining identification papers that can be used widely, but it seems that for the soldiers that isn’t the case.

Keith, who guffawed the loudest in front of Renya, says to Renya while smiling,

“That’s a surprise! Are you telling us that an adventurer at the lowest rank will train us in the way of fighting?” (Keith)

“H-Hey, Soldier Leader.” (Shion)

In a panic Shion tries to stop him.

Seemingly because they are soldiers of the Principality’s armed forces more or less, the soldiers seem to know Shion’s face.

“Shion-sama, I don’t know what this guy said to butter up to you and Mayria-sama, but are you really serious about leaving the training of the Principality’s armed forces’ soldiers to such bastard!?” (Keith)

“Soldier Leader, I think this is...” (Shion)

“Shion, stay silent for a bit.” (Renya)

Though Shion drew near and tried to explain the circumstance to Keith, she shut her mouth and her body twitched when she was called out by Renya with a cold voice.

Turning her neck stiffly in Renya’s direction as if making creaking sounds, the face she saw had smiles all over in contrast to his freezing voice.

“Renya...” (Shion)

“Keith-sama? No, Soldier Leader Keith-sama? I guess it’s fine with this?” (Renya)

Renya asked really calmly with a deliberately polite tone, but Shion’s face,

who's watching him, is ghastly pale.

The soldiers don't understand why Shion's complexion has deteriorated this much.

"In short, you guys are just that. You say there's nothing to be taught by an adventurer with a low rank?" (Renya)

"T-That's only natural! So far we have trained as armed forces of the Principality..."

"I see, I see. It's not like I don't understand your attitude." (Renya)

Although it was Keith who raised his voice, Renya interrupts him, not allowing him to finish.

"You want to say that you, as proud soldiers of the armed forces, have until now gone through such an intense training that it goes beyond being sufficient, right?" (Renya)

"T-That's right." (Keith)

"Wonderful. That's truly magnificent." (Renya)

Renya applauds towards Keith while smiling.

The soldiers look at each other without comprehending where Renya's leading this conversation. Only the sound of Renya's clapping reverberates on the parade ground where they are.

"Renya... this much is already enough. I will explain it properly to them." (Shion)

"Sh-i-o-n?" (Renya)

Shion, who is the only person that understands that the current situation mustn't continue in the direction it's heading, tries to mediate somehow, but her name being slowly called out by Renya causes her body to stiffen. The smile doesn't vanish from Renya's face.

"Will you join the events that will follow as well? I don't mind it." (Renya)

"Umm... I wonder whether I could get permission to escape?" (Shion)

Being asked by Renya, Shion readily gave up.

I probably can't do anything about this anymore, is what she basically says. *Even Renya wouldn't do something like killing the soldiers since he had been requested to train them by Mayria. There's nothing further I can do under these circumstances*, she understood.

Shion judged that there's no other path she could take other than to escape swiftly so that the damage wouldn't spread to her.

"Permission or whatever else. This isn't training. ... It's simple playing around. I don't particularly mind even if you don't participate." (Renya)

"Got it." (Shion)

Shion nods and hurriedly walks to the entrance of the parade ground while passing by Renya's side.

At the time she passed next to Renya, she placed a hand on Renya's shoulder, brought her mouth close to his ear and whispered,

"Please, do it as gently as possible." (Shion)

"Don't worry. There won't be any deceased." (Renya)

His reply was short, but as if giving Shion peace of mind, he hit her back with a slap once and urged her towards the entrance of the parade ground.

Meanwhile, apparently feeling that something was off, the soldiers didn't raise their voices even once.

After Renya sees that Shion has left, he once again looks at the soldiers.

"Well then, as the princess' eyes won't be watching, it's time for male bonding. Let's speak frankly here?" (Renya)

"Something like talking with a guy like you..." (Keith)

"I see. If you don't understand words, that's also fine with me, I suppose." (Renya)

Renya, who interrupted the talking Keith once again, takes one step towards Keith.

Keith was about one head taller than Renya, but due to Renya approaching him, he ends up retreating a step back.

"So, in that case, since words are unnecessary, let's talk about things with

these?” (Renya)

Having taken one more step, Renya lightly hit Keith’s chest with his fist once. The expression of Keith, who guessed the meaning with that, changes once again into one of contempt, considering Renya a fool.

“Whoa, you aren’t saying that you, a Rank F, want to have a fight with me, are you?” (Keith)

“It’s not you alone. It’s all of you.” (Renya)

The soldiers didn’t immediately comprehend the words Renya spoke in order to correct Keith.

However, as time passed, the soldiers understand Renya’s declaration, and, beginning to rage due to his conceited manner, there start to appear even some among them who place their hands on the training swords that are affixed to their waist.

Before long, Renya opens his mouth once more while watching the state of those soldiers with a smile,

“I don’t know what kind of difficult training you did, but, in my eyes, dealing with you guys is equal to mere child’s play.” (Renya)

Taking a fleeting glance at Keith who can’t form any words due to him trembling in rage, Renya purposely turns aside slowly after laughing scornfully and takes a little distance from Keith.

“Well, since it doesn’t seem that you have heads that are capable of understanding words, I guess it will actually be faster for you to personally experience it. I will even give you a handicap. I won’t use any weapons.” (Renya)

“You fucker... do you think that you will get out of this with all your limbs intact after spouting this much shit!?” (Keith)

As if reacting to Renya’s words, who challenged them while smiling faintly, the soldiers finally drew their swords.

Even if one says that they are pulling out their blades, the soldiers only possess normal swords.

Clearly being made out of iron. If they hit, far from being painful, they can break

bones and, depending on the place, can even lead to death.

The scenery of 100 frenzied soldiers glaring with weapons in hand brought about an intimidating air to the degree that a timid person would become unable to move, but Renya hit his hands together once as if declaring that he had come up with a good idea.

“Oh, yes! Come attack me without worries as I won’t use magic either. I will make you properly understand that your strength isn’t even at the level of being a match for an adventurer at the lowest rank, as you guys call it.” (Renya)

“Oy, you lot!” (Keith)

Keith shouted.

The soldiers behind him answer with a「Yeah!」

“Send this pretentious idiot to the medical facility by beating him up!” (Keith)

Upon Keith issuing his instructions, a hundred soldiers attacked Renya with their weapons in hand.

On the other hand, Shion, who had quickly exited the parade ground, headed towards the seats for noble visitors instead of heading home immediately. The seats have been built in a high place so that the nobles and royals could overlook the parade ground in order to be shown the results of the soldiers’ training.

Even the place that’s being used by Renya and the others didn’t omit the custom and was equipped with such seats.

Shion tried to observe what sort of thing Renya and the soldiers will do, since it’s a rare experience.

Of course, if it turns into a situation that she can’t let pass, she would rush onto the parade ground again with the intention to stop Renya somehow.

At the moment when Shion sat down in a seat, what jumped into the line of her sight was the spectacle of Renya quickly running from place to place in the lead while hundred soldiers were chasing after him on the parade ground.

“Huh?” (Shion)

It’s about Renya.

Shion was convinced that Renya, as someone who could attack with magic that is beyond common sense, would annihilate the soldiers with his katana,

something with a cutting ability that she couldn't understand, and leaked out an idiotic voice without being able to believe what she sees.

The parade ground is vast. Which is because there are also events where they perform sham battles and such with quite a large number of people, but Renya is easily running across such a wide area.

The soldiers are trailing behind him or groups of them are trying to surround Renya by carrying out different manoeuvres, but Renya, who weaves his way through the gaps between them, keeps running without receiving a single blow from anyone.

“There's only one opponent! Spread and surround him!” (Keith)

Once Keith releases his orders, several teams separate from the main body and try to corner Renya through different routes.

With his route being blocked, Renya was challenged by one team after having dropped his speed.

In the next instant.

“Ah... aah...”

Shion witnessed the sight of a human being hurled into the air without any magic being used.

From Renya's point of view, he simply swiped the feet of a soldier that came slashing at him with his sword, seized the guy once his stance collapsed and threw him, but with just that, several grown men danced in mid-air unable to continue fighting any longer.

As if he's doing a juggling game with humans, the soldiers that obstructed Renya's path were made to dance in mid-air as he passes through. Like a trail chasing him, the bodies of the thrown soldiers crash on the ground with squishy sounds.

The ground is covered with a soft soil to some extent, but the soldiers that were flung into a height of 2 to 3 meters, are incapable of adopting a sufficient defensive stance and apparently received damage to the degree of not being able to stand up right away.

“What was that just now...?”

As if seeing something that no one can believe, a soldier mutters in a daze.

“Have your feet stopped?” (Renya)

Renya, who heard the murmur, approaches the soldier who said that. Renya stepped in front of the soldier, who prepared his sword in a panic, inhaled deeply and released a palm strike charged with power by twisting his entire body. Staring at the soldier as if he were insignificant, Renya made him fly parallel to the ground without raising his voice.

His body got entangled with several soldiers that were in the way of his flight path and they ended up being knocked to the ground all at once.

At this point in time Keith belatedly realized that he ended up stirring up trouble with an opponent they shouldn't have picked a fight with, but it was already too late.

Renya, who swiftly drew close to another group, strikes one soldier, places the two ankles of the collapsed body in-between his arm and his sides and mows down the surrounding soldiers with a giant swing while using all his power. Those who were hit with the soldier's body, who wore armour, didn't get away safely but there's also no way that it will end easily for the soldier who was hurled.

After Renya cleanly defeated the group of soldiers, who have been knocked down while screaming, with the blunt high powered weapon that was a soldier, who was brandished as a weapon due to his weight and centripetal force while petitioning to be released, he released the soldier-weapon. This was done only once he saw fit after having risen his rotational speed even further.

Keith was unable to do anything but watch the figure of the flying soldier as he flapped his limbs while nonsensically being tossed around.

Chapter 94 – It seems to be the continuation of the training

Around one hour later.

It developed into a situation where Renya alone was standing among the fallen soldiers on the parade ground.

The collapsed soldiers can be mostly split into three different categories.

First, those who ran out of steam after continuing to run around and chase the escaping Renya.

You can say that those are the soldiers who persisted for the longest time among the three categories.

Another way to put it, they are the soldiers who had the least amount of injuries among the collapsed soldiers, seemingly thanks to their tenacity.

At any rate, that's because the damage they took is only being unable to move even one finger out of fatigue.

Second, those who were defeated after directly attacking Renya.

Because Renya was unarmed, his means of attack were mostly limited to kicking, hitting, throwing and swinging around. The soldiers, however, got defeated by those methods alone.

Since these soldiers hit and kicked Renya themselves, it would have been wrong if they didn't suffer painful experiences,, however he released them relatively quickly once they ended up fainting or if it seemed that they understood the feeling of suffering pain.

Third, those who got dragged in by the soldiers who attacked Renya directly. Among the three categories, it's probably them who suffered the most tragic experiences.

They were hit by comrades who came flying at them, rammed by comrades that were brandished like weapons and had the bodies of comrades drop upon them at the places they collapsed. If they couldn't evade that, it was the end at that

point, but if they were considered to still be conscious after evading, another comrade was hurled at them.

Apparently due to the indirect attacks, even Renya stepped on the unconscious soldiers, unable to quite grasp their responses or continued to relentlessly involve them until he was definitely sure that he made them faint.

“Isn’t it far too early to become useless, Soldier Leader Keith-sama?” (Renya)

Renya walked up to the side of Keith, who was lying face-down on the ground, and asks him indifferently without even looking down at him. He tried to wait for a bit after asking, but there’s no reaction from Keith. Lowering his sight below his feet while wondering whether Keith has fainted, Renya looked directly into the eyes of Keith who’s trying to glare his way from below.

Speaking of categories, Keith enters the group of soldiers that has gone down due to directly attacking Renya.

Renya had absolutely no intention to make a differentiation between him and the other soldiers, but he ends up pondering ‘maybe his skills went slightly haywire due to our exchange before the fight.

“Considering you were hit above your armour, you appear to have been damaged deeply, Soldier Leader Keith-sama. Are you alright, Soldier Leader Keith-sama?” (Renya)

“Is that sarcasm? Hey...!” (Keith)

Renya nods once at Keith who says that as if groaning.

“Do you possess the brain to process sarcasm?” (Renya)

“... You bastard...” (Keith)

“Thanks for your hard... no, it doesn’t look like it has been that hard of a work to call it as such, does it, Renya?” (Shion)

Shion, who came down to the parade ground from the seats for noble visitors once again, calls out to Renya.

Renya simply shrugged his shoulders and didn’t reply to Shion.

“Are you fine, Soldier Leader Keith? Were you able to comprehend Renya’s strength a bit with this?” (Shion)

“Pri... princess... we are...” (Keith)

“Hey, hey, Shion. Why are you speaking as if it’s over?” (Renya)

On the parade ground there already are no soldiers that can move properly. It’s not like they suffered big injuries, but there’s not a single one among them that can answer “Yes, sure” after being told to carry out further training after this.

The only exceptions are Renya, who caused this situation, and Shion who only watched from the noble seats.

“... You don’t mean to say that only I get a different menu!?” (Shion)

“No, I don’t have the slightest intention to do that, but...” (Renya)

Operating his void storage, Renya retrieves a single foldable chair from within. While unfolding that chair with a light swing and sitting down on it, Renya began to speak so that the surrounding soldiers could hear him as well.

“What I showed you just now is just a categorization of the soldiers.” (Renya)

“Categorization?” (Shion)

“The guys, who seem to have ability and stamina above a certain level, were brought down after attacking me. Those, who have stamina above a certain level, were made to chase me until they collapsed. And finally those who couldn’t even chase or attack me. In other words, the guys, who were brought down by getting dragged in by other soldiers, are the completely useless folks who have neither stamina nor ability.” (Renya)

“Huh? Isn’t there a group that has no stamina but abilities above a certain level?” (Shion)

Once Shion asks that as she considered that to be an odd part, Renya laughs scornfully at her.

“Superficial abilities that aren’t accompanied by stamina and the likes are pointless.” (Renya)

“Who says that?”

“I’m the one saying that. Well then, in case you have been listening, do you remember in which group you belong? You guys stated that there’s nothing I

could teach you. Although there's nothing, I received money from Her Highness Mayria in the shape of a request. Therefore I have decided to imprint it into you forcibly without actually teaching you anything." (Renya)

"I feel like you have said something somewhat disturbing?" (Shion)

Renya immediately affirmed Shion's doubt.

"In short, I guess it will be dangerous since it won't be based on knowledge and experience but by teaching your bodies." (Renya)

"Me too...?" (Shion)

Have I maybe announced my will to participate at an unwise time? Shion turns pale.

Renya dispassionately asks Shion,

"Do you want that to happen to you?" (Renya)

"No, I'd like to refrain." (Shion)

"If you have an interest in getting taught, I will humour you accordingly. These guys don't have such intention and thus it can't be helped." (Renya)

Renya put his foot on the back of Keith who has collapsed upside-down below his feet.

Rather than having the objective of causing pain to him, it was apparently his declaration that he definitely won't let him escape from here on out.

Even without doing that, Keith didn't even have the strength to crawl left in him anymore.

Renya surveys his surrounding in that posture and activates the <Manipulation> spell towards the soldiers who have fallen at a spot that's too far away from him.

By pulling the armours worn by the soldiers who have been scattered at a vast range, he gathers them into a closer space.

While carrying out that work, Renya deploys a barrier in order to surround the area by using parallel activation of magic formulae.

This barrier had the property of not allowing physical interaction and magic to pass outside from the inside.

It's the only way to make sure that no soldier possibly runs away after

recovering their stamina while he's in the middle of his next operation. In addition to its significance as an anti-escape barrier, it also serves as a wall to hinder leakage of the three magic formulae Renya will use next to the outside.

"No one is able to move anyway. Thus, let's follow by doing the training that's possible by simply lying around over there." (Renya)

It's a course of events he had decided beforehand, but Shion looks curious when Renya declares so.

"Such training exists?" (Shion)

Shion admired it thinking *I suppose that's quite the easy training then*, but once she was able to understand only a little bit of what Renya was planning, she became unable to entertain such impression any longer.

"Guess so. Shion, stand over there and tell me once it seems to be even slightly unreasonable. I will make a hole in the barrier." (Renya)

While telling Shion, Renya strengthens the barrier by spreading mana in order to make sure that it's visible for Shion and the soldiers. As a result, the soldiers realized that they were imprisoned within Renya's grasp.

"What do... you plan to do?"

Due to the voice of Soldier Leader Keith that comes from below his feet, Renya replied while slightly increasing the power in his foot stepping on Keith's back.

"I told you that it's a training that can be carried out even while sleeping, didn't I?" (Renya)

"There's... no way such..." (Keith)

The words of Keith who started to speak break off. It's not like Renya interrupted him in the middle or anything. Cries of pain and gasping alongside voices of surprise began to spread among the surrounding soldiers. Even Keith himself felt a violent oppressiveness and throbbing, and a disturbance of his breathing by something bursting out from within his body.

“This was drilled into me by Emil.” (Renya)

Renya says in a fashion of a monologue while sitting on the chair.

“The thing called sorcery has been precisely organized like a study, but as a matter of fact, among the techniques ranked as big spells, many that haven’t been accurately systemized like a study are included, it seems.” (Renya)

“Oh~... That’s the first time I hear that” (Shion)

Shion says.

No change from her usual expression can be seen.

Keith, who looked up at Shion’s expression from below Renya’s feet, couldn’t believe that reality.

Just what kind of expression do I have? Keith wonders.

He continues to release cold sweat from his entire body. Regardless of whether it’s his face, fingers or below his armour, it streams down.

The clattering of his teeth, not to mention the trembling of his powerless body that doesn’t do what Keith wants it to, sounds completely as if it’s someone else’s.

He doesn’t know whether the temperature he feels right now is hot or cold. Both his hands at the ends of his feebly flailing arms are tearing at the ground as if enduring something, but Keith isn’t even aware of that.

“What I’m doing right now is scattering around my through my mana and bloodthirst.” (Renya)

“Eh? ... You are already at it?” (Shion)

Shion looked around while continuing with “I don’t feel anything though.” But her face stiffens after seeing the fallen soldiers trembling, and in very bad cases writhing and starting to drool.

Renya continued his explanation without minding it.

“Although I said that, it doesn’t mean that I’m seriously scattering it. From my point of view, I’m actually distributing it weakly and subtly.” (Renya)

“Like this!?” (Shion)

The soldier Shion pointed at had already lost his consciousness with his eyes wide open and foam gushing out from his mouth.

The offensively smelling liquid from his nether region has changed the colour of his trousers by wetting them.

In addition, the figures of soldiers that try to get away as far as possible from Renya by crawling on the ground, or those who are screaming while clinging to the barrier's wall, even though they know that they can't leave the barrier, can be seen.

"Being under the same influence, it's at a level where you can stay calm without noticing anything, right?" (Renya)

"Oh? Ah, it's true. I don't feel anything, I guess." (Shion)

In Shion's perception, her current state was something along the lines of 'Isn't Renya slightly difficult to approach as he's emitting a scary aura?'

Above all, not only is Shion mentally slow, but her body has gotten used to the mana and bloodthirst of Renya as a result of having spent quite a bit of time together with him. She wouldn't mind such level of coercion.

"Once they reach the point of being able to endure this coercion, they won't just obtain the power to resist against mind spells but also get a resistance against common spell effects. Moreover, becoming capable of repelling this coercion with their own will and mana is connected to an increase of the mana they possess, I heard." (Renya)

"That's amazing! How does that work!?" (Shion)

"Owning a powerful will that opposes the feeling of 'I will be killed', they will try to resist through their mana, I was told by Emil, but I don't quite understand either. It seems that they will be able to manage somehow or other if they strongly pray 'Like hell I will lose!' in silence." (Renya)

"I see! Alright." (Shion)

Shutting her eyes tightly, Shion starts to single-mindedly pray while murmuring something unspecified.

Isn't that in vain at the current point in time as she already has a resistance at the level of not feeling anything even without doing something like that? Renya wonders, but he decides to let Shion do whatever she likes.

It would be nice if I could strengthen the coercion a bit for Shion, but if I do that, I can't definitely say that there won't be any casualties from death due to shock

among the soldiers who haven't reached Shion's level.

Won't it be fine if I go for it slowly as I have a month remaining at this point?

Considering that, Renya closes his eyes while deeply leaning back into his chair.

As it wasn't a bloodthirst with considerable power, he isn't conscious of it.

Given that even his mana was poured in weakly with a very little quantity at a time, there wasn't even any necessity for him to try maintaining it.

If it's at that level, he can keep at it even half-unconscious.

"H-He-Here..."

"Mmh~?" (Renya)

The one who raised his voice is Keith who is still being stepped on by Renya. Thanks to his entire body shivering, he's apparently unable to form his words into any decent language.

"What's wrong, Soldier Leader Keith-sama? By the way, it's slowly becoming annoying to add -sama. For how long do I have to keep doing that, Soldier Leader Keith-sama?" (Renya)

"He-He-Here... t-t-th-this t-t-tr-tra-training... f-f-for how long..." (Keith)

Renya somehow manages to assemble the voice that's difficult to understand into something comprehensible in his mind.

"How long I intend to continue this training, you want to ask?" (Renya)

Keith nods while his body trembles.

He sustained himself to an extent by talking with Renya, but without that he would likely run away by crawling around or hit the barrier while screaming "Please help!" like the other soldiers.

"Let's see. How about we stop once Shion gives up?" (Renya)

"Me?" (Shion)

While looking at Shion who apparently wanted to ask "Why use me as standard?", Renya says to Keith while treading upon on him,

"You certainly don't mean to say that the elites of the national army, who have gone through rigorous training, will throw in the towel before Her Highness Shion due to the coercion of an adventurer at the lowest rank that Her

Highness Shion can withstand with a calm expression, now do you?” (Renya)

“... That sounds nice.” (Shion)

Renya’s coercion unintentionally ceases due to the words Shion let leak in a mutter.

‘What the hell is she talking about’ Renya looks at Shion.

Due to the little break that involuntarily visited them, the soldiers try to think whether there isn’t some way they can escape from this place at once, or roughly fill their lungs with the dearly desired air as they had started to be short of breath due to it being partially disturbed.

Among those soldiers, Shion said with an expression of being somewhat entranced while putting her hands on her cheeks,



“Having Renya call me with a title of honour, how niceee.” (Shion)

It appears that Renya calling Shion with “Her Highness” had directly pierced her heart.

“What foolish stuff are you saying...? Alright, I will resume~. This time I will make the bloodthirst stronger than before, okay?” (Renya)

“Why!?” (Shion)

Shion was surprised, but the reply returned to her was very reasonable.

“Shion, you don’t feel anything anymore, thus emitting coercion at the same level won’t even serve as training, right?” (Renya)

“What about the soldiers!?” (Shion)

“It’s fine. They won’t die. Probably.” (Renya)

“Probably, you say!?” (Shion)

“Ah, you lot, I don’t know whether you can hear me, but tomorrow we will go with this feeling as well, got it? Though I plan for it to gradually become stronger as the remaining days pass.” (Renya)

Ignoring Shion that tries to protest, Renya addressed the soldiers, who had once again started to groan, while smiling.

“You are free to escape the training. Please do as you like. In that case I will be able to do something even more enjoyable, you know.” (Renya)

“Something enjoyable?” (Shion)

Renya lets his gaze wander towards Shion who asked a question in return. As it is, her face doesn’t show any indication that she’s sweating unusually. It’s the usual Shion without her expression stiffening either.

Although Renya is emitting a stronger coercion than before when he stopped temporarily, it doesn’t seem to be enough for Shion at all.

However, there was the concern that there would be some unable to endure it among the soldiers if he continued and raised it any further.

I guess that’s a challenge for the distant future, deciding to ponder about this

matter at a later time, Renya says,

“I will be bullied by Mayria if I handed you over with no abilities, no willpower and overinflated egos.” (Renya)

“Renya, your character’s bad!” (Shion)

“There’s also the part that a country’s soldiers being of bad quality is the responsibility of the ones leading that country. In other words, if we assume that the national army’s soldiers are incompetent and have no guts, that will become the responsibility of the archduchess and the next archduchess who are managing them, right?” (Renya)

“That’s... right, maybe?” (Shion)

“Tentatively you are included in that as well, aren’t you? How about it, Your Highness Shion Femme Fatale? Are the soldiers in your country incompetent and gutless?” (Renya)

“There’s no way for that to be true!” (Shion)

Shion declares distinctly with an expression of anger on her face. The ears of Renya, who feels slightly surprised, caught a sound similar to something small shattering.

“Our principality’s soldiers are only the people who repeatedly train every day, who pledge their allegiance to Her Majesty the Archduchess and who love their country! If you try to look down on that unreasonably, even you, Renya, won’t get away with that unscathed!” (Shion)

“... It was repelled at this level. ... This damned impulsive idiot.” (Renya)

Renya whispered.

Due to his annoyed expression, Shion’s anger dwindles and she reveals a look of “Huh?”

“I don’t have any particular intention to look down on them. If you say so, Your Highness Shion, all hundred men will come to the training starting from tomorrow, I suppose? In that case I will simply accomplish the request from Her Highness Mayria.” (Renya)

“Of course!” (Shion)

Declaring that while throwing out her chest with a jerk, Shion starts to run between the collapsed soldiers.

Ahead of the gaze of Renya, who watches her while wondering what she might intend to do, Shion started to call out to the fallen and groaning soldiers.

“Properly hold onto your spirit! Even I’m okay! If it’s you guys, you should be able to repel this coercion!” (Shion)

“... Unexpectedly she might have have a good way with words if she becomes a general or something similar.” (Renya)

While harbouring the impression *won’t she possibly become a young woman that can raise the morale or give speeches reasonably well if a strategist that properly grasps her reins is appointed to her?* Renya decided to watch over Shion.

Maybe, as result of that, some of the soldiers will become able to stand the current level of coercion today? While even facing that expectation,

“Renya~!” (Shion)

Shion calls out to Renya from slightly away.

Renya raised his voice in order for it to reach her.

“What’s up, Shion?” (Renya)

“Calling me ‘Her Highness’ like just now, can you do that again once we get back home?” (Shion)

I take back what I just said. This might really be a lost case. Renya was at his wit’s end.

Chapter 95 – It seems to be a talk after the defeat

In the morning Keith woke up in the soldiers' lodging house that had been assigned to him.

Usually the feeling of waking up wasn't something that bad, but in today's particular case, Keith's mood was the worst.

Yesterday the hundred soldiers of the Principality's army under Keith were ordered to receive training for a month on the parade ground. There they met the male adventurer who called himself Renya.

Normally Keith and the others, who are soldiers, don't think about expressing their dissatisfaction towards an order handed down from above in the first place, but the man, who was there, wasn't someone related to the military but a simple commoner.

Usually it's not allowed for commoners to enter military facilities.

However, despite this, that man stood there with an expression as if it would be very natural for him to be there.

From the soldiers' viewpoint, who harbour pride to serve as part of the army, even if it's limited to only that, seeing how the man behaved they end up judging him as lowly outsider. But the strangest thing of all was that they were being told to train under that man for a month.

Even the soldiers, who rarely voice out their discontent with such things, bluntly expressed their complaints to Keith.

After pacifying them, since their superiors might have brought along a reasonably high-ranking adventurer, he tried to ask that man, but the words he got in return were identifying him as the lowest rank even among adventurers. The lowest rank of adventurers is something everyone can achieve by simply registering.

Upon that Keith was pushed by his subordinates in order to let this idiot called

Renya learn his own position in the world by sacking him once.

Believing that, Keith opposed Renya, but he ended up regretting that decision right away.

Of all things, Renya himself suggested to physically talk it out with all the soldiers.

No matter how much confidence he had in his own abilities, what he proposed was totally different from being swarmed by goblins or kobolds.

He said that he alone would fight against hundred soldiers who trained to the extent of being recognised as soldiers of the Principality's army.

If one considers that logically, Renya's proposal was a suicidal act.

Renya made a careless proposition to Keith and the soldiers where one can clearly understand that the outcome will be him getting discarded after a heavy beating.

Moreover, due to his attitude of bluntly declaring that he won't use weapons or sorcery, the soldiers' anger exceeded the boiling point.

Keith sighs while heading to the dining hall, where he always takes his breakfast, after clothing himself.

That was a terrible mistake.

Something like their pride as soldiers was crushed into little pieces due to their choice.

Against a single adventurer and even after receiving the handicap of him not using weapons or sorcery, they were forced to completely yield.

It's not like they were just defeated.

It was an utter annihilation, seeing as he went even easy on them in order to avoid a greater number of wounded.

"We might already be useless..." (Keith)

Faint-hearted words unintentionally leave his mouth.

Certainly the news of our unsightly defeat will spread among the other soldiers in a flash.

And, Keith and the others will be told by the other soldiers,

"You have stained the honour of the Principality's army."

"You are incompetent soldiers that got beaten up without being able to put up a decent resistance by an unarmed opponent."

Even more than worrying about his own situation, Keith feels like running away

when considering his subordinates' feelings.

However, those words are the truth.

If we had gathered more information about the adventurer called Renya and if we had asked him to teach in a more modest way, we at least wouldn't have been branded as incompetents, but now... all of that is too late.

Even so, he couldn't choose the option of skipping the training or of running away.

The one who selected us is none other than Her Highness Mayria who will become the next archduchess.

An escape will bring disgrace to Her Highness.

Even if we can't avoid being recognized as incompetents, an act similar to putting Her Highness Mayria to shame on top of it cannot be allowed.

What's left is to continue while gritting our teeth and enduring, while persuading himself with that, Keith opened the door to the dining hall and instantly wondered whether he had gone to the wrong place, due to the scene that spread out in front of him.

The dining hall, where many eat their meals, was a room with quite the size. Long and narrow tables should be densely lined up and the figures of the soldiers that usually eat their meals at said tables should line up in rows, but currently there are only several oblong tables set up in the middle of the room. In a place that's equivalent to the seat of honour, sat that completely black-clothed man he saw on the parade ground yesterday.

Renya has his arms and legs crossed while sitting on a chair. He's lightly entrusting his weight to the chair's back.

What happened? Keith surveys the dining hall.

Originally the dining hall had a scale allowing around 300 people to take their meals at the same time, but what's currently before his eyes are only five tables where ten people sit on either side.

And, next to the entrance, Keith's subordinates, who apparently arrived here before him, are standing stock-still with pale faces.

Once he turns his sight to the dining hall's wall, he sees table debris, which had been shattered into very small pieces.

As if blending in with the debris, a mountain of countless bodies had been created.

It might turn into such spectacle if the mountain was created by something capable of churning humans and tables into a gigantic vortex, Keith feels in a corner of his mind that his emotions had somehow become hollow.

Renya, who recognized him, called out to Keith while sitting on his chair.

“Yaa, good morning, were you able to sleep well? Today will be harsher than yesterday, you know? Eat your breakfast promptly and head to the parade ground.” (Renya)

“Haa...” (Keith)

“What’s wrong, Soldier Leader Keith-sama? Are you still asleep? Should I wake you up?” (Renya)

“No, please cut it out... the attaching of -sama and the waking up part, that is.” (Keith)

I suffered that much of a miserable defeat.

To be called with -sama goes beyond sarcasm, it’s close to mental torture, Keith judges.

“Really? -sama or such is not needed? Then it’s fine, but hey, get your food quickly and eat.” (Renya)

“No... yes, well...” (Keith)

Keith heads to the counter that separates the dining hall from the kitchen while getting urged on by Renya.

On the way he passed next to the mountain of table debris and people, but that mountain had been thoroughly destroyed to the extent of him ending up wrecking his brain *just what the hell happened for it to turn into such a situation.*

No matter how you look at it, the arms and legs are twisted in totally wrong directions.

Through the table debris, the soldiers’ skin can be seen peeking out from within, showing traces of a relentless beating and filled with bruises that are painful to look at.

At the same time, when seeing the broken table pieces, Keith ends up asking himself *does he possibly have some grudge against tables as well?*

While reciting inside his mouth “don’t pay attention to it, don’t pay attention to

it”, Keith arrives at the counter.

On the other side were the faces of the people preparing the food with whom he had become acquainted, but all of them had teary eyes.

Just tell me what the heck happened before I came in here.

While screaming so within his heart, Keith places his breakfast on a tray and returns to the table where Renya is waiting.

On his way back Keith commands his subordinates, who have frozen and haven’t moved from the hall’s entrance, with his eyes to eat their breakfast swiftly.

While watching them start running to the counter in a hurry, Keith sat down at one of the remaining tables that was slightly apart from Renya.

Brown bread, meat and potato salad and in addition bean soup. Looking at his meal consisting of that, Renya absent-mindedly said,

“The quantity is insufficient and it doesn’t look overly appetizing either.”
(Renya)

Not knowing how to best reply to Renya’s statement, Keith bites into his bread.

Compared to the hard bread often bought by adventurers, it has a softness that is still less objectionable, but as a hard bread is something hard nevertheless, he tears off a piece by freely using the power of his jaw and hands, and eats it while washing it down with the soup.

“Probably it’s best if I improve the meal quality as well, I suppose? They will after all carry out very intense training. I will try discussing it with Mayria. It won’t be any good if I don’t think of a place either. I’m pretty sure they won’t be able to eat here with a calm mind.” (Renya)

“Aren’t you the reason for this?” (Keith)

What’s this guy saying, Keith reflexively interrupted Renya’s monologue. Although he immediately pins down his mouth while thinking *Oh shit!*, Renya asked Keith back without looking as if he overly minds.

“You mean the reason how it has turned out like that? Or the reason how it would turn out like that?” (Renya)

“Is there any difference in that?” (Keith)

“The reason why it came to this is because you guys lost unsightly to me. In other words, you guys are the reason.” (Renya)

Renya says while pointing at the mountain of rubble and people. Keith frowns but doesn't object.

“In short, the reason why it became like this is...” (Keith)

“That's because of me, I suppose. As there were some fellows in the dining hall who used your defeat in order to sneer at you without even knowing the circumstances, I offered them to try experiencing it themselves once if they find it that funny. The outcome is as you can see.” (Renya)

“Aah, that means they were unlucky...” (Keith)

Keith prayed for the fallen soldiers' happiness in the next world. Though he thought *they probably haven't died yet*.

“The Trident Principality is a military state, right? Considering that, isn't the quality of the soldiers too low?” (Renya)

Damn, you don't measure your words, do you? Keith thinks, but there's no point in refuting him.

We were easily defeated yesterday. Even the other soldiers are being treated as trash that goes well with broken tables.

Under these circumstances claiming that we are actually quite the elite soldiers won't serve as anything but a bad joke.

“I think that you are just too far outside the norm.” (Keith)

Dragging out a somewhat safe reply from within his mind, Keith ended up with his eyes wide open due to Renya's next words.

“That outside-the-norm-guy is in charge of your training, thus I plan to have you guys get disconnected from that norm quite a bit too though?” (Renya)

“Ha!?” (Keith)

“At the very least I intend for you to reach the point at which you'll be able to do at least this.” (Renya)

Keith unintentionally stands up due to Renya pointing at the mountain of trash with his gaze.

Renya looks up at Keith while still seated.

“Don’t be unreasonable! There’s no way that we will become able to do that, right!?” (Keith)

“Why? You are humans as well, no?” (Renya)

“We are different from you!” (Keith)

“You’re the type of boring guy that replies to each and every little thing, aren’t you?” (Renya)

Even though Renya looked at Keith from below, who raised his voice fussing over how they would become able to do something like that, Renya’s gaze without a doubt looked down on Keith.

After urging Keith, who ends up lost for words, to sit down on his chair, Renya said,

“Seeing that you guys told me that you won’t ask me to teach you, I don’t have any obligation to do so, but...” (Renya)

“Can’t you forgive us anytime soon? I feel ashamed for our ignorance. As you see, I have apologized, thus...” (Keith)

Keith bows while secretly thinking *he’s the type that holds a grudge, isn’t he?* After staring at Keith for a while, Renya started to talk.

“... Oh well, it’s fine. But why do you arbitrarily decide that it’s impossible? Did you try already? At least you guys shouldn’t have received the same training I did. So why have you guys selfishly decide on that result?” (Renya)

“That is...” (Keith)

“I won’t tell you to become like me. Even for me there were various circumstances after all. But, even without becoming like me, won’t it be possible for you to achieve at least this much?” (Renya)

Unfolding the arms he had crossed, Renya places them on the table, bends himself forward and fixedly looks at Keith.

As if being wrapped up and captured by his stare, Keith is unable to remove his eyes from Renya’s face who is intently looking at him.

“Even though I’m telling you that you will be able to do so, you say you can’t

and that it's impossible. Why can you guys, who have only knowledge and ability to the degree of losing unsightly to me alone, deny what I tell you without hesitation?" (Renya)

"... Mixing in slander here and there, you..." (Keith)

"Even though I'm telling you that I will bestow power upon you, you don't want it? Even if it won't go as far as you becoming matchless warriors, don't you feel the wish to possess power that allows a unit of 100 soldiers to match 10.000?" (Renya)

"That is..." (Keith)

Even Keith is a human that tries to make a living out of fighting. If he's asked whether he wants power or not, he will accept it without hesitation.

Moreover, Keith and the others are soldiers protecting their country. Obtaining power meant increasing the possibility of being able to protect the things they want to protect.

Because they are able to understand that, Renya's temptation seemed like very sweet words for Keith and the soldiers in the surroundings who were listening to their conversation.

"It's fine if you don't want it. But is that the truth? You really don't want a combat strength that cannot be compared to the other soldiers, a power that will simply allow you to protect your country even without relying on something like a hero and a strength to simply cut down beings that try to steal something from you?" (Renya)

"... Isn't it obvious that I want that?!" (Keith)

"Then obey me." (Renya)

Renya's voice became cold all of a sudden. The consciousness of the soldiers, who seemed enthralled about it in the middle of Renya's temptation, cool down with a single sentence. And they were forced to realize.

This guy in front of us is serious.

"Don't harbour any distrust and train as I tell you to. Do as you are told. And,

during that time steal the things you can steal from me. If you don't know what's good to steal... let me teach you, seeing as I received your apology just a while ago. But do know, taught techniques are no match for stolen techniques, got it?" (Renya)

"Understood, instructor-dono." (Keith)

Once Keith answers curtly, his subordinates nod as well.

Watching that with a satisfied expression, Renya pushed back the chair and stood up.

"In that case, it's alright. Soldier Leader, can you give the detailed instructions to those guys who aren't here?" (Renya)

"Yes, instructor-dono." (Keith)

"I will go ahead and wait at the parade ground. Make sure that everyone attends once they've finished eating breakfast and put on their gear." (Renya)

"Yes, instructor-dono." (Keith)

"Continue with your breakfast then." (Renya)

Leaving those words behind, Renya leaves the dining hall.

Keith and his subordinates, who saw Renya off, follow his back with their eyes until he vanishes from their sight after passing through the dining hall's entrance. Once they couldn't see him anymore, they released a very deep sigh. They don't know how much of it was the truth.

But since a person with that much of a skill has said it that seriously, there probably won't be any loss in obeying him, they judge.

"I will talk with the guys who aren't here." (Keith)

When Keith says so, one of his subordinates speaks up.

"Soldier Leader Keith... what should we do about that mountain?"

"Leave it alone... for us there's nothing we can do about it." (Keith)

Keith, who has no intention to concern himself with the clean-up, decided to intentionally neglect it.

I'm sure that once the guys from the same unit as the soldiers who are forming that mountain of trash, discover them, they will take responsibility for the

rescue recovery and the cleaning.

What worried him was the point of whether they, who were messed with, won't try to settle the scores with Renya or if they'll let it be.

If that happens, no other future but that of a mass production of similar mountains awaits us.

While forcibly stuffing the breakfast that had lost almost all of its flavour for some reason into his stomach, Keith prayed "Please spare me from that alone."